

Waverly, Virginia
May 18th 1957

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue,
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

A friend of mine in the "Numismatic" field relayed the following information to me--He said while at the St. Louis convention, he saw among many things in your collection a \$500.00 Va. treasury note of the 1861-2 vintage. Not being of interest to him, however knowing that I specialize in Virginia currency, he thought I would like to know about it. This info- was highly appreciated as it is probably the 12th one that I know off. Unfortunately for me I have never been successful in annexing one for my collection as those I presently know of are in an estate in Richmond to be ~~####~~ disposed of in a series of sales by the court. I have ^{several} in Mr. R. L. Deitricks collection ~~while~~ he were living, but at the time I cared very little for them and after his death a nephew of his manifested an interest in maintaining the collection so it was turned over to him. He is now overseas and the collection is stored away in some bank. You probably knew of Mr. Deitrick as he put out a number of price list and this note was listed by him. I believe you can get the list from the "Numismatist Library".

I don't know whether you are particularly interested in this note from a collectors standpoint are not, but if you don't specialize in Va. items, I would appreciate your letting me have it. I will buy outright, or, will be glad to whip up a trade of some ~~kind~~ if at all possible. I appreciate the rarity of your note and can assure you I ~~#####~~ will give you a liberal trade. I now have every known Va. treasury note of all types and watermarks with ~~exception~~ of the \$500. note which I have never understood why they were never listed in some of the paper money catalogues. I've been knowing of there existence for years and "Deitrick" certainly advertised them for sale. I note in "Criswell's" catalogue just out that he doesn't hardly mention a \$500. Fla. note. There are several around to my own knowing, how he missed out on the note I will never know. Of course that doesn't mean that they are plentiful because they are certainly not.

I have CSA notes of the utmost rarity----U. S. paper money--many scarce notes---CSA bonds of the greatest rarity. I will be glad to hear from you about this note, and if you have a snap shot of same, I would like to see if it is like the ones I have seen. Further I would consider it a real favor, if you will trade me this note for my collection and I will be glad to consider any trade offer you care to make. Of course you understand there is a limit on all things and I wouldn't exactly drown myself over this note since there are others around, however I will give a good premium for it. Should I Have what you want it is entirely possible we can trade. Let me know what you will trade for.

Mr. Eric P. Newman

You know it was exactly 12 years before I ever obtained a \$1000. Va. bond of 1864. Dealers all over wrote me they never heard of one and no such animal existed and what not. I corrected them by sending the address of several people I knew had them. Do you know right after that one dealer sent me 13 of the very same kind of bonds. Yet they were never listed and everyone said "Duke" university had the only one and the bond was "unique". That word "unique" is awfully large and I think quite often over exercised as I have ^{it} to be true many times.

You have a rare note Mr. Newman, and I shall respect it as such and I don't expect you to give it to me. As stated I am prepared to offer a good price or trade--providing, I have something you will consider---

Since I collect CSA and related material and specialize in Va. currency, I don't have any thing other than CSA & U. S. paper money to offer--I may have a unique piece of fractional currency--but here goes ~~again~~ that word thats so often over used.

I hope this letter has not become boresome, but when writing someone that I do not know personally, I do like to make myself a little acquainted.

My A. N. A. # 19698---- I am a member of Confederate Stamp Alliance and have enjoyed every minute of being a memeber of both organizations.

Please let me hear from you as soon as you can find time to write. I shall be awaiting your favorable reply.

Very cordially yours,

Howard E. Spain
Howard E. Spain

May 24, 1957

Mr. Howard E. Spain
Waverly, Virginia

Dear Mr. Spain:

Your enthusiastic letter of May 18, 1957, has been received and, believe me, I understand your desire to complete your Virginia collection. Unfortunately, I am very much interested in all phases of American paper money and do not care to part with my \$500 Virginia note. Incidentally, I have a \$100 note on the same pinkish heavy paper.

There are many items in the collections of others which I have always hoped to obtain and with a little patience I am sure you will end up owning one of the several pieces which you say exist of the \$500 note.

I appreciate your comments on the difficulty of determining the rarity of items as many people are uncooperative and hold back information as to their collections deliberately so that when an item is published or written up there appear to be less of it than there actually are.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

Waverly, Va.
May 27th 1957

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

I am very grateful to you for your letter of May 24th in reply to my letter dated May 16th relative to a \$500.00 Va. Treasury note which you have in your collection.

I note you are interested in all phases of American paper money and do not care to part with this note. I'm not going to bore you with a lot of letters or hookum pookum because I believe in being honest and frank and therefore if you won't trade or sell the note, it is foolish for me to keep pestering you with a lot of nonsense. The fact remains that I have several items which I thought perhaps you might change your mind if I told you about them. Of course you may already have them and naturally wouldn't be interested. At any rate it won't hurt to try---- I know that you have a \$10.00 CSA Essay note as Sydney Kerkis told me about that several years ago. The one that I have is the one illustrated in back of "Bradbreer's Book" # 5538 in a perfect immaculate state of preservation. I mention this because Kerkis stated & yours had seen considerable circulation and thought probably we might work up a trade between your notes (\$10.00 Essay and \$500. Va.) and my Essay. "Do you have the \$10.00 Eagle & Shield note A9 to A16 ? These as you know are extremely rare and Kerkis advises me there are only five or six known. The one I have is # 5003 and is A9 and in extra fine condition. Criswell places a very healthy price on the plain Ab \$10. note in UNC. at \$900.00--- (talking about Confederate notes)

While I consider this note much rarer than the \$500. Va. and hate to even think of parting with it, I would consider trading for your Va. note for one reason only--that is as stated in my previous letter I specialize in Va. currency and do not in the confederate field. I do have confederate money and some very rare indeed, but I cater to state and local issues. Also have a \$5.00 CSA Ceres on bale cotton of the very rare 3rd series in a beautiful state of condition.

Any of the above that might strike your fancy will gladly be sent for your inspection and approval, and I am on the hopeful side that #### at least one will.

It will undoubtedly be a long time before I could possibly obtain one of the notes I mentioned as being in R. L. Deitrick collection, or in the estate to be settled when no body actually knows.

As for the \$100. Va. you mention, yes, I have that too along with all other known types, varieties, watermarks and even signatures. All I lack is your note and this I would like to have. If we can't trade on any terms, would you be so kind as to send me the note to examine by registered mail? I will take the best of care and return promptly--
over

Mr. Newman:

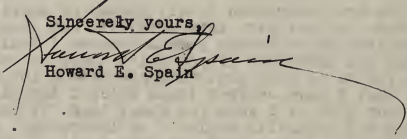
I have even heard a \$1000. note of this same date existed. But I have never seen one nor found anyone that has.

I presume you collect Mo. currency and wish that I had some to offer, but I never cared to much about other state currencies except Va. I find it extremely difficult at times to get certain notes from your own state and I doubt if a complete collection would ever be formed of all Southern States.

I shall be happy to hear from you again and trust that it will be possible for us to make a trade on the note. At any rate I would like to see it if at all possible.

Thanks again for your interest and consideration.

Sincerely yours,


Howard E. Spain

May 31, 1957

Mr. Howard E. Spain
Waverly, Virginia

Dear Mr. Spain:

No one will ever accuse you of not trying. As I well know, there is always some item which intrigues someone more than something that he already has.

I am pleased to know that you have the \$10 CSA Essay note illustrated in Bradbeer's book, in perfect condition. Mine is dirty but will have to suffice. My \$10 Eagle and Shield is A-15 and is, apparently, the finest specimen known of the whole issue. I did not know any uncirculated one of any plate number or letters existed and mine is uncanceled. The \$5 third series piece which you mention is a technical variety which I would have no interest in.

I am sure that you can understand my point of view even though I am primarily interested in numismatic research.

Since you are a Virginian, I wonder if you read my monograph on Coinage for Colonial Virginia, published by A.N.S.

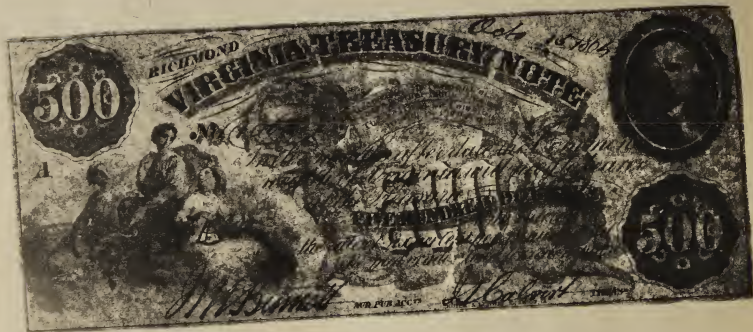
Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

Copy was sent
to Spain 6/7/57



Waverly, Va.
June 3rd, 1957

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

Thank you very much for your letter of May 31st. It seems as though I do not have a thing to offer that would shake the \$500 Va. away from you. I didn't know for sure that you had a Chase # 126 plen A-15, but had a lingering suspicion you might. The note that I have isn't uncirculated as I may have led you to believe, however it is in extra fine condition and has been slit cancelled but nicely repaired to where it isn't noticeable. My \$10. CSA Essay is probably the finest specimen known at least that is what I have been told by many collectors. I also have the companion \$20.00 CSA Essay in equal as nice condition. The \$5. third series note as you say is only a technical variety and I guessed it would hardly be of interest.

"Is there anything you can think of that I might have that you would trade me your \$500 Va. note for?" I have coins, currency, CSA bonds of many types and varieties, some in fact that only a very few people have ever seen. Could there be some note around you would trade for in the event I should locate one? You can see that I am deeply interested in this note and will lean over backwards in order to obtain it. I have contacted the people who have the specimens I previously mentioned, but the boy over sea's claims he has only one copy now as he disposed of the duplicate sometime back and he didn't know where it was now. The Bank doesn't know for sure when the estate will ever be settled do to a lot of legal angles and many heirs involved.

Would I likely have any Va. items that currently would be of interest to you? It is possible I may have what you need, but can't think of it at the moment. "Would a cash deal be of any advantage? If so, "what would be your estimate of its value?

I would certainly like to see the note if there is nothing you will trade for. Would you send me the note by registered mail to examine? I will take good care of it and return promptly. I would like to know the serial # the signatures and its over all description and etc. By seeing the note I could better see and understand what I would like to know.

If you will let^{me} have the note in order to complete my Va. collection, I will assure you it will be kept and if at anytime you should want it or any part of my collection to display purposes or what not you are at liberty to have same. Since I collect Va. material I thought perhaps you would consider letting me have it.

Yes, I read your interesting and informative article on Colonial Va. coinage. I must congratulate you on a fine piece of work.

continued:

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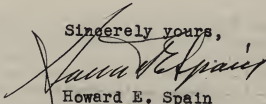
Mr. E. P. Newman

It has always been an inspiration to me to read articles written by others and particularly about something I'm currently interested in. I have enjoyed various articles in the past that were written by such men as Kerksis, R. T. Hooper and etc.

Well as I said before I would like very much to have your note and hope you can think of something I can offer. At any rate, please give me a chance at same if you decide to let it go now or later.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,


Howard E. Spain

P.S. "Do you have a 5 lb. Va. Colonial note of 1775-
of the large type? I understood there are only a
few around -

I have several James River Bank notes of 1773 & 1775
in excellent condition -

Waverly, Virginia
June 13th 1957

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

I am very grateful to you for sending me the photostat of the \$500 Va. note. I would be even more grateful if you would open up your heart and let a "Virginian" who collects Va. items have the note. You said in one of your letters you were primarily interested in research. If that be the case I would assume your interest is only temporarily on not only Va. but other material as well. As stated before, I do not care about other State notes other than Va. as I realize its not a chance to complete every Southern state so just never went for them. I don't collect Missouri notes or bonds, however I have three Mo. bonds which I will gladly let you are anyone else interested in Mo. have. I also have the very rare 1848 Republic of and Government of Tex. bonds which I care very little about. All this material came in at random with other items.

I have various rare and scarce CSA notes, bonds and some few southern states bonds, duplicate James River Bank notes, the extremely rare 5 pound Va. note of 1775 the large type which only two or three known. I have many items which I can offer in trade. I know you said you did not care to part with this note. Well thats natural as I've said the same thing many times but finally sold at a price. In fact theres nothing except my family I wouldn't sell at a price. Why don't you make me a price on the note?


I will make you the following offers, subject to my approval of the note or notes. If acceptable, kindly send by registered mail and my check will come to you by return mail. If you prefer I will send certified or cashier's check. As follows:

- 1--- Will give you \$375.00 spot cash for your \$500. note.
- 2--- Will give you \$500.00 spot cash for your \$500. & \$100. notes.
- 3--- Will give you a 100 pound (Extremely rare) Erlanger CSA bond for your \$500. This bond is about Unc. and is written in both English and French---Or maybe you got one of these from Mr. Grover Criswell.

Please advise me at-once on the above offers. If not O. K. then make me a proposition. Thanks again for your kindness and your splendid cooperation. Awaiting your reply.

I am.

Kindest regards



June 18, 1957

Mr. Howard E. Spain

Waverly, Virginia

Dear Mr. Spain:

My wife and children are for sale but not my collection. You probably have taken vitamin pills full of persistency.

I have left for my vacation.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

Waverly, Va.
June 19th 1957

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Ave.
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

Your rather short and humorus letter has been received. This reply will probably be late since you are leaving on vacation, but at least it will be present when you return. I have enjoyed corresponding with you relative to your Va. notes and have been convinced you love Virginia better than you do Missouri.

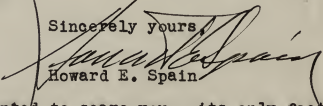
As far as your collection is concerned--I know you have some nice stuff, but I wouldn't be interested in anything you have other than your Va. notes regardless of how rare they might be.

I have been doing some research on your note since we started writing and I would like to pass along to you for what it might be worth---The State Treasury records and all the Library records do not show that any such note was ever issued, nor ~~####~~ do they in anyway indicate such a note was ever authorized. The old acts of the Va. General Assembly have been searched and no information to the effect such a note was even contemplated can be found.

I stated in one of my letters that I knew of about 12 such notes, well that is true, however the leading experts are of the opinion the notes were probably printed but never authorized to be issued, and any such note found was likely to have forged signatures with a high serial number to fool the amateur to think that it was a legal note since so many were numbered.

You are at perfect liberty to do as you please with your note, but unless I can find information that would substantiate that it is a genuine authorized note, my interest would be of only a moderate nature---therefore I wish to withdraw my offers as of now. Should you care to see the dope I have on this note, please let me know and I will send same to you.

Sincerely yours,



Howard E. Spain

P. S. The above is not intended to scare you---its only facts. The State Treasurer and Curator of State Archives furnished this info.

Waverly, va.

2/5/58

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

I have recently heard from several sources so many fantastic and ridiculous stories concerning your va. \$500 note that I just couldn't resist writing you again, hoping you might clear up a few things to my satisfaction. I am told you valued your note @ face and another source had it \$750.00 and another said it was the only note of its kind made. This I challenge as several were made up on India paper proof but were not accepted as small denomination notes were in more demand at the time do to a lack of small change. Another fact I'm sure you have been advised on by both John Ford and the Criswell boys is that your note definitely has forged signatures and numbers just as I told you last May. I agree you have a rare note and I would like very much to acquire it even if it does have these decrepencies. I realize of course that you are not interested in disposing of the note, or at least that is what you told me sometime back and even if you were thinking of selling your price would no doubt be out of my reach as I'm no rich man and have to stick within a reasonable sphere.

If you will allow me to say so, I do think it would be nice to let someone have it that specializes in the va. series if you do let it go rather than someone that only wants to speculate on same. As you know Criswell and Ford both want your note for one purpose only--that is to trade me for some highly desirable notes which they both want very badly. I wish it were possible for a deal to be arranged whereby both you and the Criswell, and myself could come by what each wants thereby making each of us happy in our respective fields. Of course I assume this is completely out of the question, although I do know they have Mo. notes that you want like I have notes they want. It seems like a shame for each of us to have something the other fellow wants and yet we sit tight. I agree that is a privilege we all have and live with, yet I must admit it spoils the interest in collecting. For your information I let Criswell have a \$50.00 of the same type as your note recently for a measly \$4.50--ask him about it if he hasn't already told you. This is not intended as any reflection again'st your note as you do have a rare piece which I readily admit. I understand the boys have both of your notes for photography purposes, however it is very unlikely that they will list them as being proof.

Should you care to quote a cash price or make a trade offer, I will be glad to entertain either if within my reach. I believe you have seen the last of the ridiculous prices being paid for obsolete currency irrespective of rarity. I can offer you good price now, but wouldn't guarantee the future. Let me hear from you.

Sincerely yours,

Harvard E. Spain

Feb. 8, 1958

Dear Mr. Spain:

There seems to be a general campaign by your friends to get you my \$500 Virginia note. You either must have them spellbound or have something they want.

In any event the note is with Criswell for photography only and any values assigned to it by anyone are of little interest to me.

After it is returned to me it will stay just where it was before.

Since you indicate that there are other notes like it perhaps you can get one of the others. Have you seen any of the others personally or not.

Sincerely,

These Goods Are Sent on Consignment and Approval and the Title in the Consignor Does Not Pass Until They Are Paid For.

408 OLIVE STREET

B. G. JOHNSON, Prop.

TO ST. LOUIS STAMP & COIN CO. DR.

SM

194

St. Louis 2, Mo.



Waverly, Va.
February 14th 1958

Dear Mr. Newman:

Thank you for your reply to my latter of the 5th. It was real nice hearing from you again. I appreciate your comments regarding your Va. note which has caused such a furor. I'm afraid you will have to blame me for all this sudden interest in your note. Yes, I do have some very desirable items which both Criswell and Rord want for their collections. However, I told each of them that I would trade the notes if they would find me a \$500. Va. note. Of course Criswell knew about yours first, but I told John Rord that you had one of these notes but I didn't think you would dispose of same. That explains why they were after you for this note. I've always tried to be honest and fair in my dealings and I thought it no more than right that I should clear this thing up in order that you would understand what was going on in the event they hadn't told you.

I must admit that both parties have kept me well posted on all the latest pertaining to your note. I am glad to learn that the boys have your note for photography purposes and I expect they probably will mention the note as existing in one of their supplements.

You asked if I had ever seen another note like yours. To be frank about it, I'm not sure--however I do have a faint recollection that Mr. Deitrick showed me one several years before his death but this I cannot be sure on. I do know that he listed them for sale but cannot say whether they were all proof or not. In my feverent and vivid search for another note, I did gather information to the effect that a number of these notes were printed, however the info- did not specify whether they were all proof or not. I do know that the \$100's and \$50's were made up on India paper proof on light card with a pinkish background. I have seen both the \$100 and the \$50's in proof. I am almost positive there are some more of these notes around, in fact I believe I told you that about a dozen were reported to be in the estate of some old gentlemen, but it was tied up in trust and its anybody's guess when if ever this will come to light. Of course I haven't given up hopes and expect to continue my search for same although it may well be in vain.

I would like very much to see your note for my own satisfaction but don't suppose you care to send it out again. As to the assigned values of your note that I mentioned in my letter--I might say the info- that I received was that you placed the values and not someone else on the note. Should you ever decide to let the note go, Please give me a chance, "will you?"

As for Criswell and Ford--- yes they certainly do want notes that I have. For instance I have the finest known \$10.00 & \$20.00 CSA Essay notes known in existence--both uncirculated. In addition to them they want my extra-fine \$10.00 A-9 note which neither have and apparently its the only one known--and I also have many other rarities which they want.

As I've told you several times, my main interest is in Virginia material of all types and while I like these other things I do not specialize in them--therefore you can readily see why I want to secure a \$500. Va. note-- incidently all the proof notes I've seen have bogus signatures and numbers which can easily be detected by careful comparison with a genuine note. Of course I'm not especially interested in a proof note, infact if possible I'd much prefer one that wasan't proof as being proof doesn't mean or interest me, one way or the other.

By the way do you have a duplicate copy of your booklet on the coinage of Colonial Va.? If so, could I purchase it from you.?

Shall be very glad to hear from you at anytime, and if I can ever be of assistance to you in any reseach on va. or other State items, please feel free to call on me.

Very cordially yours,



Howard E. Spain

February 18, 1958

Mr. Howard E. Spain
Waverly, Virginia

Dear Mr. Spain:

As to my book on Coinage for Colonial Virginia,
I suggest you buy the same from the American
Numismatic Society, in New York, as I do not
feel at liberty to interfere with their sales.
I hope they still have copies available.

I have a few nice Virginia Colonial duplicates
and wonder if you have any Virginia Colonial
duplicates to exchange.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

Waverly, Virginia
February 21st 1958

Dear Mr. Eric:

Thanks for your letter of the 19th. Good to hear from you again.

Please send me the following items if you care to let them go with your asking price in cash or trade. I may not have what you want in trade but will do my best. I suggest you make a price both ways: As follows:

\$100. Bank of Richmond.
50 cent. Sheperdtown
50 cent. unsigned war bank.
20.00 Monticello bank
60.00 7-14-80 Colonial
\$300.00 10-17-80 "
5 Pounds Mar. 4, 1773
8 pounds James River 9-1-75

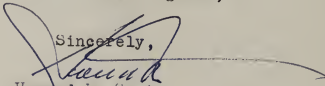
I do have a considerable amount of Va. material, but there is no end to my wants. It seems that you have quite a collection of Va. items yourself. Would like to get together sometime and compare notes with you.

I am sorry we could not work out some kind of a deal for your two Va. treasury notes, but I suppose its all for the best this way and I shall not molest you again about them. I did want to see them, but for some reason it seems that you are afraid to send them. I am ~~####~~ curious to know why. "Would you mind telling me? Of course its quite alright if you don't, but I can truthfully say you are the first person I've ever had any dealings with that has refused to extend this favor. I've tried to be honest about the notes from the first time I wrote you even though you did have room to some extent to think I had been misleading you along. After all my enthusiam has subsided considerably and it really makes no difference to me one way or the other.

Shall be awaiting your reply with the above notes. Anytime you come across some of the notes as per my list please let me know.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,


Howard E. Spain

March 13, 1959

Mr. Howard E. Spain
Waverly, Virginia

Dear Mr. Spain:

Although you probably have many Virginia pieces which I do not have, I would like to have the 15-pence Colonial proof which you once sent me for examination. Since you have another Virginia Colonial proof I presume you might part with it to a man who would really appreciate it.

You already know what I have as stated in my letter of February 19 and I will be more than glad to work out something with you.

I do not sell material but will be glad to make a trade even if parting with some of the items I do not have in duplicate.

Cordially yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

Waverly, Virginia
February 27, 1958

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecill Avenue,
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

Thank you for your letter and suggestion in regard to your book, "coinage of colonial va." I will see what I can find out from the New York Numismatist Society.

"Do you have the rare 1775 Va. shilling in silver?" If you do, you really have a rarity of the first water-- . The only one I've ever seen offered was I believe in the "Dunham" sale back around 1941 or thereabout, however I understand there are possibly three specimens existing.

It is entirely possible that I may have duplicate va. colonial notes that I could offer in exchange with you. If you have some idea as to what you need, I will make a search and see just what I have. I do have a few "James River Bank notes" dated in 1773-5 and one extremely rare (5 pound note also dated either 1773 or 1775. In fact its very few of these known in collections.

At one time about two years ago I had one of the finest collections of Va. colonial notes around, consisting of proof notes, uncut strips and one sheet of (12) notes from the \$50.00 1781 to the \$1000. note. I made an unusual deal with another party involving these notes and since that time have acquired a rather nice assortment of these notes.

I have a bond that is of utmost rarity, it being the second one of its denomination known to exist. That is a 1,000 pound sterling or 25,000 francs, "Emile Erlanger" written in both English and French and put out by the Confederate Government and floated overseas. You have never seen so much watermarking on one document in your life. Our friends #the Criswell's" do not have this, but borrowed the other known specimen to photograph for their forthcoming book on CSA and SS bonds. I have hundreds of va. county notes, cities, towns, broken bank notes and other va. documents and paper signed by Henry Clay. I also have a U. S. 25¢ fractional note that is either a proof, or essay--in fact its not listed in any of the popular paper money catalogs and no one that I've shown it to has ever seen one like it.

tell me this, "Since you don't care to part with your \$500. va. now", "would you consider letting me have your \$100 of the same type? I would be very happy to make some kind of a trade with you on it.

Best wishes and kindest regards,

Howard E. Spain

March 7, 1958

Mr. Howard E. Spain
Waverly, Virginia

Dear Mr. Spain:

In your letter of February 27, 1958, you mention the New York Numismatist Society. Why don't you write directly to the American Numismatic Society, as I indicated. When you get the book you will know exactly who owns the Virginia halfpence, in silver, and a great deal of other information about them.

As I indicated, if you have any duplicate Virginia Colonials you might make a list of them. I have the five pound note of 1773 and of 1775 and a number of James River pieces also. Nevertheless, I have many holes.

My \$500 Virginia is now back home and Criswell wants to see the \$100. mate to it. Why in the world did you part with your \$50 note.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

Waverly, va.
March 10th 1958

Mr. E. P. Newman
6450 Cecile Avenue
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

Many thanks for your kind and interesting letter of Mar. 7th.

I shall do as you suggested and write the "American Numismatic society regarding your book on Va. colonial coinage. It will be very interesting to read about the silver halfpence as it has always been a subject which I've been much impressed with.

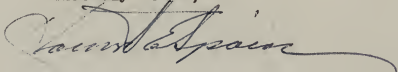
I am enclosing herewith a list of the various Va. colonial notes which I have to offer. Most of them are in extra nice condition and would be desirable items in most collections.

I note that "Criswell" has returned your \$500. va. and now wants to see the \$100. That was more or less to be expected I guess since they apparently want either the notes or a record of all known types and varieties. They have borrowed a number of notes and bonds from me from time to time for photography purposes and general information.

You asked why I let my \$50. va. go. That is a real good question and I often ask myself the same thing. Frankly it was one of the few times I went off half cocked, but actually these two boys came by one evening and caught me about half sleep and somewhere along the line talked me into a very attractive trade offer involving a number of items which intrigued me a great deal more at the time than what I already had. Of course I was and still am pleased with the deal, but did regret letting it go. I have found it to be true, that lots of times I have to let go with something I really want to keep, but in order to get something the other fellow has, I have to be as fair and give him a even break. After all when I've had my fun with a series, I usually pass it on to someone else and then start something new which is of more interest. However, I still specialize in Va. material and that is as I've told you before my main interest. I'm sure I can get the \$50. back as I have something those boys want real bad and I don't think they care too much about Va. notes other than to have records on them. I have been collecting va. material for years and naturally am very anxious to add anything I don't currently have. That is the reason I've offered to trade you most anything I have for your two Va. notes which I thought perhaps you had enjoyed so long you might consider letting me keep them for awhile.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely Yours,



LIST OF VIRGINIA COLONIAL NOTES:

- ✓ \$2.00 note of 1780--guaranteed by U. S. on back. Unc.
- ✓ \$150.00 note of 1781---very fine. 1st day of March
- ✓ \$500.00 note of 1780---fine to v.f. 16th day of Oct. *clothing?*
- ✓ Two Punds note. July 17-1775---State Arms left. (40 Shillings)
- ✓ \$10.00--Oct. 7th 1776--State Arms to left. v. f.
- ✓ Two Shillings, 6 pence or half a crown. July 17-1775. v.f.
- ✓ \$500.00 Mar. 1st. 1781--V. F.
- ✓ \$8.00 Oct. 7th. 1776--State arms to left. v. f.
- ✓ \$250.00 Mar. 1st. 1781-- v. f.
- ✓ Ten (10) shillings--July 17th. 1776. State Arms to left. fine
- ✓ One Sixth of a dollar. Oct. 10th. 1777. fine.
- ✓ Three ~~shillings~~ or (sixty shillings. July 17th 1775. fine
- ✓ \$45.00 July 14th 1780. fine
- ✓ \$55.00 July 14th 1780. good.
- ✓ \$80.00 " " " fine
- ✓ ONE POUND or (twenty shillings) July 17th 1775. v. f.
- ✓ ONE SIXTH of a dollar. Oct. 20th 1777. Uncirculated.
- ✓ UNCUT pair (one \$750.00 note, and one \$150.00 note both crisp, except part of end torn off of the \$150.00 note, dated Mar. 1st 1781. Quite scare in pair.

UNCUT strip of three notes. \$1.00--Two-thirds of a dollar, ##
 one third of a dollar. dated. Oct. 20th 1777--consecutively
 numbered. crisp but been folded.

- ✓ Large "Three POUNDS" note. Signed by Phil Johnson & John
 Tazewell--dated. July 17th 1773 V. f.

Large "FIVE POUNDS" note. Signed by B. Dandridge & John Blair
 dated. Mar. 4th 1773. Ex. F.

- ✓ \$2,000.00 note. dated 7th of May 1781--Ex. F
- ✓ \$1200.00 note. dated 7th day of May-1781--EX. F.
- ✓ \$1500.00 note. dated 7th day of May--1781--Abt. Unc.
- ✓ \$750.00 note. dated 30th day of Dec. 1781--abt. unc.

\$Thirteen dollars and third. dated July 1st, 1789. EX.F.

These are all that I have at hand at the moment. Will be ##
 glad to consider any offer you care to make for the lot. Hope
 we can come to a satisfactory trade if they are of interest.

May 5, 1777 #84, \$5 v.f. written dates
 Oct 20 1777 #6 written dates
 July 14, 1780 \$55 and
 Yorktown 68, \$20 ext fine

March 21, 1958

Mr. Howard E. Spain
Waverly, Virginia

Dear Mr. Spain:

Of the items you listed I do not seem to have the ten shilling, July 17, 1776, the \$13-1/3, July 1, 1789, the \$750 dated December 30, 1781.

If you would like to send these to me for examination, I would appreciate it.

I have, as possible exchanges, \$5, and \$8, written date, May 5, 1777, Virginia, \$6, written date, October 20, 1777, July 14, 1780, \$55 uncirculated, and I have two Yorktown Continentals \$6, in fine condition and \$20 in extremely fine condition.

I am trying to find you something in Virginia, as you can see.

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

Waverly, Va.
3/25/58

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Mr. Eric:

1780
man
I am enclosing herewith the three Va. colonial notes which you wished to see from the list I sent you. They are--Ten Shillings, July 17, 1776---\$13-1/3, July 1, 1789----\$750.00 dated Dec. 30th 1781. I am sorry none of the others are of interest to you as they are a real nice lot of notes.

I am sorry to advise, but none of the notes you listed as possible exchanges are needed as I have each of them in excellent condition. Perhaps you have something else you can offer. Since it seems you are more interested in colonial currency as per your book on coinage of colonial Va., I was thinking probably you might consider the entire lot of notes per my list, along with 280 all different 1861 Confederate treasury notes (average V. Fine) some very rare and some scarce in a trade where both you and I would be real happy. I am referring of course to your \$100 & \$500. Va. treasury notes. You know how bad I would like to have these notes and since I have the \$50. of the same type it would really be nice to have the set. Now I am willing to sacrifice some of my nicer pieces which would require me breaking into my major collection in order to obtain your notes. As I have stated before I am a Va. collector mainly and while I would hate to part with some of my rarities, I am willing to do so in order to be fair. I collect as a hobby and not for a profit, and after I keep a thing certain length of time, I am then willing to let someone else share some of the joy that I have had myself.

I wish I could meet and talk with you in person, that way I feel we could come to understand each other much better and probably come to some kind of a trade. If I thought you would make the trade, I could possibly get the Missouri notes out of "Criswell" that he has and that you wanted sometime ago. I realize that I would have to pay a tremendous price in order to get them, however I would be willing to make the try.

Do you collect CSA bonds, Va. county notes, and Va. broken bank notes? If so I could possibly fix you up in either of those fields as I have quite a collection of each. The rarity or value of the note doesn't concern me to much so long as the exchange comes within value for value.

Why not send me your note or notes to look at? I would appreciate it very much.

Kindest regards,

Harold E. Spence

P.S. I've been notified the book is on the way

April 2, 1958

Mr. Howard E. Spain
Waveilly, Virginia

Dear Howard:

We certainly seem to have our troubles. I just obtained a new set of glasses and I think possibly you could use a set too. The \$13-1/3 Virginia is dated 1780 instead of 1789, as you listed it; the \$750 Virginia is dated March 1, 1781 instead of December 30, 1781. As a result, I have both of these items.

The only item I do not have is the 10 shilling of July 27, 1775, which is sewn together in the back and which is in rather unfortunate condition. Since it is a duplicate I could keep it as a filler and am enclosing herewith a 2 shilling 6 pence of the same issue in very lovely condition. If you would make that exchange I think we would both be benefited.

I am returning the 10 shilling so that you can look at it again, along with the other two items which you forwarded to me.

The issues of the Confederate States of America I already have with respect to major varieties. I do collect State bank notes and scrip of all kinds, including Virginia broken bank notes and Virginia county notes.

I hope we can meet at some time and possibly we will make more progress.

Please send back the 10 shilling note if the exchange suits you; otherwise, return the two shilling sixpence piece.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

Naverly, Va.
April 7th 1958

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
Saint Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Eric:

While I have the "Two Shillings 6 pence note already, I will make the exchange with you on the 10 shilling note and enclose same herewith. It is gratifying to know that at long last we have made one deal to our mutual satisfactionⁿ and I hope that this spiral will continue to both our advantages.

Sorry the Confederate issues were of no interest.

Do you have any duplicate Va. county notes, broken bank notes & other scrip? If so, would be pleased to have your list of same. It is possible we might work up another trade. I might even consider trading you my collection of county notes, or broken bank notes for your two Va. treasury notes. "How would that sound to you? I have notes on either 52 or 53 different Va. counties with no two notes alike and I would have to check and see just how many bank notes I do have. Have quite a bit of Va. private or merchants scrip also.

I am about to trade a fellow a Fla. state bond for a proof Va. 3 shilling 15 pence colonial note. Will know in a few days if a deal or not.

I would like to say that your book on coinage of colonial Va. came in and I must congratulate you on such a fine master piece. I also want to congratulate you on owning one of the four pieces of the Va. in silver. Now if I owned one of those, I wouldn't trade it for 50 of the \$500. Va. notes or for that matter any other obsolete note. I thoroughly enjoyed reading it and acquired quite a bit of information I heretofore didn't know.

I will be glad to send anything I have that you might like to see upon request and if at all possible will be glad to work out a trade with you on items you have that I need.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,


Howard E. Spain

Waverly, Va.
6/2/58

Dear Mr. Eric:

Since you probably know more about colonial paper money than anyone I presently know, I thought perhaps you could give me some information that apparently isn't recorded in your book on Va. colonial coinage which I enjoyed reading very much.

Here is the story: Sometime ago I secured a very odd looking piece of Va. colonial paper and I immediately began to try and figure the thing out. I showed it to several very serious collectors and they never saw anything like it before, but were of the opinion it was a restrike or proof, although no one it seemed had ever seen a proof.

The note is of "ONE SHILLING -FIFTEEN PENCE". The obverse is completely blank with exception of the Va. State arms in upper left corner as shown on the 1775 issue and the denomination across top and bottom borders. There are no signatures or numbers and the note is in an immaculate state of preservation. My own personal opinion along with several others is---The note is a proof and undoubtedly a unique item in its field.

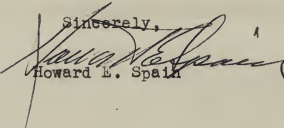
I was under the impression that you could possibly shed a little more light on it and possibly you had seen other pieces like it.

If seeing the note would be of any help, I will be glad to send it for you to examine.

Any information you can give me will be greatly appreciated.

With best wishes and kindest regards,

Sincerely,


Howard E. Spain

June 9, 1958

Mr. Howard E. Spain
Waverly, Virginia

Dear Howard:

In your letter of June 2, 1958, you describe a proof of a portion of a Virginia Colonial issue but if you wish to have me give my opinion concerning it, I will have to see it.

First, I want you to understand that my book on Virginia coinage was, primarily, on coinage and merely mentioned paper money of the period of the coinage. The note which you have must be one shilling threepence and cannot be one shilling-fifteen pence, as indicated in your letter.

I have seen other proofs of other Colonial pieces, or trials of portions of the notes. If you need further help on it I'll do my best.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

Waverly, Virginia
June 19th 1958

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue,
Saint Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Eric:

Should have answered your letter of June 9th before now, but been in and out of the house quite a bit and just getting to where I can relax a bit.

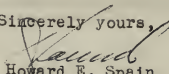
Certainly appreciate your comments concerning the Virginia colonial (proof) note of "ONE SHILLING & 3 PENCE" as you so rightly stated in your letter. The fifteen Pence came about as you will see upon examination of the note which is enclosed herewith.

Its the first of its kind I've encountered in all of my collecting days, and several have seen the note, including Mr. F. C. C. Boyd who advises me that its the first he has seen in over fifty years of collecting colonial paper money and calls it unique. The note undoubtedly carries considerable interest as everyone so far that has seen it wants to either trade or buy outright. I have never seriously collected colonial money although I do have a fair representation of the Va. issues.

Any information you can give me regarding this note will be greatly appreciated.

With all good wishes and kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,


Howard E. Spain

July 2, 1958

Mr. Howard E. Spain
Waverly, Virginia

Dear Howard:

I very much appreciate the opportunity of seeing the Virginia 15 pence proof note of 1775. I have seen other Colonial proofs of this nature where the printer was testing to see what his makeup looked like. Naturally, everyone wants to acquire this note from you, including myself. I do not know what might tempt you with respect to it except, of course, my beloved Virginia \$500 note. However, if you give me the opportunity, I probably would be able to send you something of substantially more value than others might be willing to give you. I might suggest a sheet of Colonial bills, or something really exciting, as you have a piece which is exciting, particularly because of its lovely condition.

After my vacation I would like, very much, to have the opportunity to suggest something which would be beneficial to you.

You asked for information concerning this note and I can unhesitatingly state that it is unique, unusual, uncirculated, unknown, unfake and "un-der my skin."

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

Waverly, Virginia
July 9th 1958

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
Saint Louis 5, Mo.

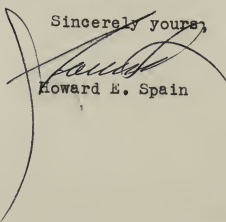
Dear Mr. Eric:

I trust you received my letter of June 19th (certified) with enclosure of the "Virginia" ONE Shilling & 3 Pence proof note which I wrote you about prior to your last letter to me. I'm not writing this to hurry you up, but since I had heard nothing from you, I thought perhaps I had better check and see if you got it alright. If you haven't received it, please advise me at-once so that I can put a tracer on it immediately. Wouldn't like for anything to happen to it even though it is well covered by insurance.

If you have already written me, please ignore this letter.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,



Howard E. Spain

Waverly, Va.
July 23rd 1958

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
Saint Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Eric:

Thank you very much for your letter of July 2nd. Let me take this opportunity to say that I am deeply grateful and appreciative for your wonderful help you gave me in regard to my 15 pence Va. colonial note. You have been very kind and I shall always feel indebted to you for same. Your letter was indeed most welcomed as it contained such grand news and you can imagine just how thrilled I was to read where it said--"unique--unusual--unknown--uncirculated--un-faked and etc.

Since you are an advanced collector of colonial currency, and no doubt specialize to a large extent in this series, I can readily understand and appreciate your desire to acquire this note. It would undoubtedly be an exceedingly rare addition to your present outstanding collection.

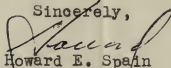
Since it is a unique item and being a Virginia piece, you can easily understand why I am not overly anxious to part with it. I have been made and turned down some exceptionally nice trade offers for this note, including sheets of colonial and other material of various types. Needless to say none of the offers appealed to me, not because they weren't good (for surely they were) but because I had no interest in them.

You should have this note, and it would be know trouble at all if you were willing to part with your \$500. Va. which I am currently interested in. As for rarity of each, I would say both are very rare, however I think you will agree that the colonial is more so.

As I have said before, I'm not in this for profit or for sticking someone, it is only a hobby and when I can be of help to a fellow collector and he likewise can be of help to me, I've never had any trouble trading. If I were specializing in this series, then it would be a waste of time for anyone to try and secure it. But if you are interested seriously, I believe it will pay you to give it real consideration.

Again let me convey my sincere thanks and trust you had a most wonderful vacation.

Kindest regards and best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard E. Spain

Waverly, virginia
September 25th.1958

Dear Eric:

I assume you are now back from your European Vacation and trust you had a most enjoyable trip. I have hesitated writing because I was under the impression I would hear from you anyday in reply to my letter written sometime in early August.

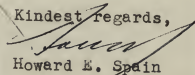
I thought perhaps for record purposes if for no other reason you would like to know that I have acquired in addition to the Va. fifteen pence proof note the mate to it--namely-- The HALF-A-CROWN, or TWO SHILLINGS 6 PENCE of 1775 in the same immaculate uncirculated condition, identical in type and description. Truly an exceedingly rare pair of notes. Since my last letter to you, I have done some very fast checking and have yet to find anyone except the original owner that has ever seen or heard of another note of the type and description of these two Va. pieces. That is Va. issues.

Needless to say they have aroused quite a bit of interest among some of the most discriminating collectors. I really had to do some talking to get this last one out of the owner, but after awhile I had something he wanted worse, however he actually wanted to keep the note and buy the item I had and then he would have both, but it goes to show we can't always have both things at the same time.

If you would like to see this specimen, will be glad to send it for your examination. Just had an idea you would be interested to learn about this other new discovery.

You mentioned something about a suggestion you would like to make me after your vacation. What is the suggestion?

Kindest regards,


Howard E. Spain

October 21st 1958

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
Saint Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Eric:

I am at a complete loss as to why you haven't answered any of my letters. I would like to know your reason. I hope that I haven't said something wrong, or possibly you have been sick or under a tremendous strain from over work. At any rate I would like to know the cause.

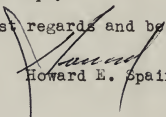
As I wrote you in my last letter, I now have in addition to the "One Shilling 3 pence Va. colonial proof note, a Two shilling 6 pence note in the same condition and description as the latter. They are truly a beautiful pair of exceedingly rare notes, unknown unheard of and as you said unfake and also under my skin. You asked in the letter that the late Mr. Fred Boyd mailed to me with a footnote that you would like to have the opportunity to suggest something that would be beneficial to me after your vacation. To-be-sure you are not on vacation now.

You were probably under the impression I would only let the note go for your \$500. note. Well I will say this---If I were as far advanced in collecting colonial currency as I think you are, you are no one else would be able to get them. However, since I only have a small representation of these notes, but do have I am sure the largest and most nearly complete collection of Va. Treasury notes in existence I thought perhaps the two notes I have would be of more value to you if you are seriously collecting this series than they would be to me and that we could make a swap making each of us very happy. Now as you know my notes are in perfect condition, whereas your note does show minor bruises and cuts besides having bogus signatures & number just like the one I have. This as you know doesn't help at all. Several well known collectors have expressed amazement as to why I want your note, in fact they just can't see it--frankly I don't know myself----except for the fact that it would fill in a gap, but would not be a (actual) part of my collection since it was not a authorized issue.

If you would like to see these two notes together, I will be glad to send them for your examination. After your inspection of same--if you would like to make the exchange, then I will be glad to have you send me your \$500. to examine and if it meets with my approval, I will let you know by return mail or return the note to you and you can return mine. I may as well tell you now, I don't think I would let the two notes go for anything less now, unless it would be something of highly unusual importance.

I shall very much appreciate a reply.

Kindest regards and best wishes,


Howard E. Spain

October 29, 1958

Mr. Howard E. Spain
Waverly, Virginia

Dear Mr. Spain:

I am not in the slightest bit perturbed, I am just overworked and have therefore become a poor correspondent.

I was very glad you got the second proof Colonial note of Virginia. I knew Fred Boyd might want one of the notes and had hoped he had something which intrigued you more but that is now a thing of the past.

The head of the Numismatic Department of Smithsonian is coming to see me this weekend to talk about a proper display for the Civil War Centennial. That ought to be a great opportunity to boost interest in numismatics.

Your interest in my \$500 Virginia note, I fully understand, but I still have not determined whether there is any other specimen. You have indicated that you know of other specimens but I wonder if you have ever seen one. It is so easy to have them confused with the Confederate issue from Richmond.

I just completed the text of a monograph to be published by ANS on the Good Samaritan shilling and other Massachusetts silver. It has been a very tedious piece of work and I hope a few people get some information from it.

Thank you for being tolerant of my failure to reply.

Cordially yours,

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN

Waverly, Va.
November 1st, 1958

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
Saint Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Mr. Eric:

Thank you for your letter of Oct. 29th. Glad to learn that nothing in particular was wrong, as I was beginning to get worried.

It was indeed a sad occasion to learn of Mr. Boyds sudden passing. He was a fine fellow and will be greatly missed by all numismatist throughout the country. Yes, he like yourself expressed a desire to acquire my proof 15 pence colonial note and made a very fine offer indeed, but unfortunately what he offered in exchange I already had and consequently I wasn't interested in duplicating something I already had. Since that time I very luckily acquired the second specimen which formerly belonged to the late Henry Chapman of Phila. The owners of these two proof notes have had them for many years and it was only by the skin of my teeth that I was able to get them by having something which they were specializing in at this time. Needless to say I had to do some real talking, but after awhile they realized my interest was sincere and practical.

He had an enormous collection of obsolete currency which he left to a nephew. Now I have been told by several that the nephew has several pieces but will not let anyone examine his collection which is still intrust with some bank. Another source told me some late Judge in Richmond had one or two copies but the estate has never been settled and no one seems to know when. That is all I can tell you so far. As far as I am concerned your note is the only one around until another makes its appearance. There is no doubt in my mind that others were printed and probably destroyed when the northern forces burned and looted Richmond, or probably they are in some attic yet to be discovered.

Your note does fascinate me and I had about come to the conclusion that since you were primarily interested in research that I would tempt you by offering both of my proofs for your one, opening up a new field for you and at the same time streghen your collection beyond any other. As for condition you cannot ever expect to surpass the immaculate state these two are in. They to me are equally as valuable in dollars and cents as the Va. shilling in silver, since there are four pices of it compared to only one each of these. Of course any note or coin for that matter is rare as long as you don't

have it even though it may be a common piece. I would certainly like to have your note and would get quite a kick out of showing it off to some of my Va. collector friends who are of the unbelieving type. It would be considered a great favor of you and in return I would be most happy to help you secure items for your collection even if it meant breaking into my own holdings. Also you can be assured that for any reason whatever I had to part with it, you would be first on the list to know about it.

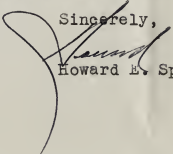
I have many rarities in obsolete currency, but my primary interest is in Va. treasury notes of all types and varieties. Remember I am offering to give up in exchange something I doubt you would yourself do if it was—vice-versa.

Let me congratulate you again—I am pleased to learn that you have just completed the text of a monograph on the Good Samaritan shilling. More power to you in the field of research.

Shall be pleased to hear from you at your convenience.

Kindest regards and again thanks for writing,

Sincerely,



Howard E. Spain

Waverly, Virginia
November 29th 1958

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

Just a short note with a bit of information which I thought perhaps might be of interest to you. I quote as follows:

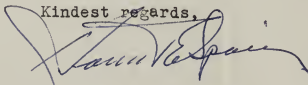
A very reliable source just informed me that R. L. Deitrick at one time offered him a \$500 Va. note for \$ 50.00, but he declined purchasing it because the note had too many counterfeited characteristics. About a year later he stopped by Deitricks place and while engaged in a bit of chit-chat he asked Mr. Deitrick if he still had the \$500 note. His reply was that he had sold that one to a fellow in Missouri named Johnson and while he was not overly enthusiastic about them he didn't want to sell the one in his collection at that time. This elderly gentleman[^] checked with the State Treasury Department and State Library and could not find among their records where any such note was ever authorized to be issued or even mentioned, therefore it made him think but the more that there was something fishy about the note. I showed him my \$50. and he said the note Deitrick had looked like it in color and thickness of paper. I told this person that it was now an accepted fact that these notes were proofs. He replied, possibly so, but he had never seen a proof note before that had signatures and numbers. Unquote:

This bit of information bears out what I have contended all along that there must be another around somewhere and apparently Deitricks nephew still has it. I would say this note is in the same category as the \$500. Fla. note as the second specimen of it showed up not too long ago.

My point is this--Why should I hesitate letting you have something you are currently interested in while I am not especially interested myself and you have something I need. My two notes may be worth a lot of money, I don't know and it makes no difference to me if you sold them tomorrow for \$5000.00 as long as I got in exchange what I wanted myself. Don't misunderstand me, really I would like to keep my two notes and acquire yours, however I realize I can't expect to always get what I want without sharing something I have with someone else. This I am willing to do when I feel like the exchange is on about an even keel.

Why not do me a personal favor and let me see your \$100 & \$500. notes?

Kindest regards,



P.S. Would you part with your \$100 note?

Waverly, virginia
January 16th 1959

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
Saint Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

I don't believe you will have very much to worry about during 1959 unless, its over the ides as to whether to let me have your two Virginia Treasury notes. I say this beacause I made contact with the only source I had any hopes might have a copy like yours. This party informed me that the collection left to him did not contain the \$500. note, but he did find evidence among some records indicating the owner had once own or knew of such a note. That information eliminates any hopes I might have had to substantiate my claim that another did exist. This should make you very happy indeed as you are now apparently the sole possesor of such a item. It would be really nice if you could see fit to start the new year off by letting me have the note or notes as I would like very much to display them along with other material in my collection during the civil war centennial in its proper locale (Va.) I know of nothing that would please me any more than to own the set. I can assure you they would never get completely out of my sight. "Isn't their anyway we can make a deal?"

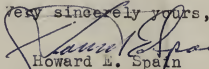
Do you have duplicates of the following to offer?

1773 5lbs. James River Bank.
50 cents and 1.00 Tazewell county va.
50 " " " Wood " "
Any Virginia broken bank bills.
Any types of private scrip on Va.

Do you collect confederate bonds, or other fiscal paper other than the treasury notes? I have quite a lot of varied material that I don't particularly care to dispose of, but if it meant making a deal on your notes I suppose we could get together. I have one Va. bond in duplicate that is extremely rare---only four or five known and this one is good as they come. Criswell wants it more than a chicken would like to have teeth. Also have a unc. \$500. 1861 Missouri bond with all coupons, signed and numbered.

Hope you have caught up with your work by now and that the year 1959 will bring you many happy returns.

awaiting your reply, I am.

Very sincerely yours,

Howard E. Spain

February 5, 1959

Mr. Howard E. Spain
Waverly, Virginia

Dear Mr. Spain:

Naturally I realize I owe you a letter or two. The first thing I want you to do, if you keep carbon copies of your letters, is to read a letter you wrote a long time ago telling me how many copies of the \$500 Virginia note were in existence and finally now you are admitting that there is no evidence that another specimen exists.

You were too much of a salesman and your pressure was a little too great. However, I charge it all to your enthusiasm.

I do have a few Virginia duplicates and am listing them on the enclosed sheet. If there are any particular pieces of private scrip from Virginia which you are anxious to have please let me know as I might part with them even though they are not duplicates. I have about ten volumes of Virginia material.

I do not collect Confederate bonds or other items which do not fall into the category of circulating money.

I am trying to obtain some information on the Jefferson lottery which took place in 1826 in Richmond, Virginia. Do you know whether this had anything to do with Thomas Jefferson as it apparently took place a couple of months before he died.

It is always nice to hear from you even if my reciprocation is not so prompt.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

City of Lynchburg 90¢
 Monticello Bank \$20⁰⁰
 Bank of the Valley (Staunton Branch) \$20 -
 " " " (Winchester Branch) \$50 -
 Bank of Scottsville #50 -
 Bank of Howardsville #50
 Bank of Virginia (Portsmouth Br) #1 - (1862)
 " " " (Frederick) #2 (1862)
 " " " (Portsmouth) #10 (1853)
 " " " (Union) #20 (1860)
 " " " (Portsmouth) #50 (1839)

March
 5 £ 1773 very fine (large size)
 8 £ James Rance Ed paper 7/1/75 fine
 #5 May 5, 1777 written date
 #6 Oct 20, 1777 written date
 #8 May 5, 1777 "
 #10 Oct 7 1776 printed date
 #500 10/17/80
 #55 7/14/80
 #60 "
 #80 "
 #1000 5/7/81

(Spain)

Waverly, Virginia
February 10th 1959

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue,
Saint Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Mr Newman:

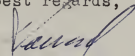
Thanks for your letter of the 5th. I was beginning to wonder what had happened to you. Of course I know people sometime become very annoying and a good way to get rid of them is to stop answering there letters. With reference to a letter I wrote you a long time ago telling of how many \$500 Virginia notes their were in existence and now admitting yours is the only specimen is very interesting indeed. I agree and acknowledge that my enthusiasm did run away with me and I probably made a poor salesman after-all. However the information I gave you at that time was info-handed to me and I was under the impression it came from reliable sources. I do know that "Deitrick" did list them for sale, and furthermore the elderly gentlemen I wrote about telling me that Deitrick offered him a note of the type and description as yours is perfectly reliable and I don't believe he would deliberately lie about it. He is under the impression that your note is the one he could have bought at the time as it finally made its way out to Missouri to a man named Johnson who had a very large collection of obsolete currency and died a few years ago. As I wrote you, I contacted the nephew of Deitrick and he stated the collection did not contain the note, but he did find evidence among his uncles records indicating he either owned a note of this type or knew the whereabouts of one. After the old gentlemen told me his story I was satisfied the nephew had one, but it now looks rather hazey that another is around. Outside of yourself and me, it doesn't seem that anyone else is particularly interested since the note has bogus signatures and number and not a regular issue. I have checked all available state records and there is no evidence such a note was ever contemplated. I would still like to have the two notes, but I do not want them bad enough to mortgage my home or pay an enormous price. I will be willing to pay a fair price in cash, or make a liberal trade. I hope you don't make the mistake of sticking them in some secluded spot in a museum as a few people I know have done.

I don't know a thing about the Jefferson lottery you mention. I never took any interest in such. Wish I could help.

You must have a wonderful collection of obsolete currency and I would like very much to see it. If you do not care to let me have your two Va. notes, why don't you be a sport and let me see them? You have nothing to fear, I'm a fairly decent person and have never misplaced anyones material to this date. If I have anything you would like to see, just say the word and you are welcome to it.

Let me hear from you, and don't take so long to answer next time.

Best regards,



Va. Currency Notes.

\$10.00 Letter A - Wm - J. Green & Son.

If your \$20.00 Monticello Bank
note has the Va. state seal, then
I would like to see it -

This list takes care of my
immediate wants.

"What do you need?"

Have you a "Va" ~~Bank~~ Bank
note - called the -

25¢

50¢ unsigned

War Bank 1861?




February 19, 1959

Mr. Howard E. Spain
Waverly, Virginia

Dear Mr. Spain:

The only items on your list which I have are a \$100 Bank of Richmond and 50¢ Sheperdtown. You also asked about the War Bank and I have a 25¢ note and an unsigned 50¢ note.

You must have a gigantic collection of Virginia notes if this is the extent of your wants.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

ESTABLISHED 1897

CHAS. W. PRIDDY & COMPANY

INCORPORATED

FERTILIZERS

AGRICULTURAL LIME

WHITE BEACH PLASTER

CWP PELLETS (FERTILIZER)

PRIDDY'S
PRODUCTS
PRODUCE
PROFITS

114 W. BRAMBLETON AVE.

P.O. BOX 900

NORFOLK, VA.

PHONE MADISON 2-2614

WAVERLY - Va
MAR. 12 - 57

Dear Mr. Eric:

Don't mean to hurry you, but I would like to see the Va. Bond notes I requested you to send at your earliest convenience -

Do you have a ⁵3.00 Norfolk Co. Va. note? If not I have a duplicate I can send you. It is a rare note.

awaiting your reply —

Trident Regd
Harris W. Brown

ESTABLISHED 1897

CHAS. W. PRIDDY & COMPANY

INCORPORATED

FERTILIZERS

AGRICULTURAL LIME

WHITE BEACH PLASTER

CWP PELLETS (FERTILIZER)

PRIDDY'S
PRODUCTS
PRODUCE
ROFITS

114 W. BRAMBLETON AVE.

P.O. BOX 900

NORFOLK 1, VA.

PHONE MADISON 2-2614

→ Here is my want list ←

\$500 - Va. Heavy rate proof
\$100 - " " " "
\$100 - Bank of Richmond
.50 - War Bank —

Will trade my entire Va.
Colonial holdings, including
The 15 pence + the 2 shilling 6 pence
proof notes for the above
4 notes —

I forgot to enclose this with
my letter of to-day — I said
I would not molest you again
about the Va. notes, but I decided
to see how much of a sport you
really were —

Respectfully
Harold E. Spain

3-16-59

Waverly, Va.
March 16th 1959

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

Thank you for your letter of the 13th. I can fully understand your desire to acquire my 15 pence Va. colonial proof note, but as you said about your \$500. Va. note, I haven't yet determined if there is another specimen. While I am under the impression there isn't, you can never tell these days what might pop up.

Yes, I do have two colonial proof notes, both in an immaculate state and both different, however I've yet to find a collector that has ever seen two others just like them. They are unique, uncirculated and of great historical interest. Far more valuable than any broken bank note or other related material of the Civil War era.

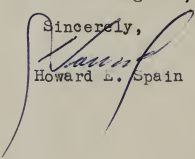
While I do not collect colonial currency, I do appreciate a good thing when I see it and I was fortunate indeed when I obtained these two rarities. Had Mr. Boyd had what I wanted I am sure he would have traded me for them as he as much as said so in his last letter.

I don't see how I could possibly let either of these notes go for bank notes even though I could use several on your list. You by all rights should have the notes since you are so well advanced in this field. However we must be realistic about the thing. You want me to give up a highly prized item, and yet you do not wish to part with something I need in my line. I believe I've offered time and again to meet you over half way, yet you refuse to budge.

Should you ever change your mind, you can let me know, and I will be glad to cooperate with you.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,



Howard E. Spain

WAVERLY - Va.
June 1 - 1957

Dear Mr. Newman:

I am taking the liberty to send you (enclosed) two notes which you may already have for your examination
1 - Mississippi & Alabama R.R. Co - \$25.00 - 1837-7m - V.R.
2 - 100 - Kansas City, Mo. Hughes original Electric Belt appliances in use. This band I know absolutely nothing of and is probably more interest as a curio than anything else.
I will trade you these two items for the following -

\$100 - Bank of Richmond
.50 - Corp - of Shenandoah, Va.

If you are not interested, please return and no harm will be done -

It is against my better judgement, but am seriously considering selling a well known Museum here the bulk of my collection of obsolete currency - Since I, like so many others have reached the point where it is virtually impossible to add anything more, I felt it would be to my advantage to pursue another phase of collecting where opportunities appear more abundant. If I resume any part of my collection it will be the Va. currency notes which I always liked best of all - With exception of your two proofs, I have all known varieties & types, of some including some watermarks that aren't even listed by our friend Criswell - Don't suppose its any use of asking you to reconsider making a trade on the two notes or one note for my (two Va. colonial proofs) However I knew you wanted at least one and possibly both as they are related and should stay intact - However unless there is a good possibility of your making such a trade these two notes will go with rest of material in museum. Thought I would give you this last opportunity if you care to do so. I would greatly appreciate it and feel that both you and I would

enjoy my pleasant hours thinking they were in
our collections. Should such a deal be made, I
will be more than glad to loan you my va-
rates if at anytime you wished to exhibit, or
display at some fair meeting or convention.
Of course this is strictly for you to decide and
if it merits a trip to your city - perhaps I
could arrange that when I get my vacation
if it doesn't coincide with yours.

I am still of the opinion that other rates
of yours & mine possibly exist and it's just
a matter of time before they make their appearance.
As you know rates that have never been heard
of are now coming to light and it's extremely
difficult to determine what is rare & what isn't.
The first thing I think both of us should do is forget
about all that has been said about these rates
as to (quantity & no known) and just assume we are doing
each a good deal by making a trade. But as stated
unless it's a chance to deal his going to let the whole
works go and do as my friend Sydney C. Beckris
try another field - He sold out sometimes back
lack stock & barrel to criminal

Let me hear from you soon -

Kindly Regard

Wm. W. Spain

June 5, 1959

Mr. Howard E. Spain
Waverly, Virginia

Dear Mr. Spain:

I am returning the two items you forwarded as the one I already have and the other is an advertising circular.

As you can see by the stationery. I am using, I have a non-profit organization going which places material in museums and at the present time I have about six small exhibits.

I am very surprised that you are ready to dispose of your Virginia Colonials and yet are so enthusiastic about your Virginia Treasury notes. Once you complete the Treasury notes you will probably dispose of them.

I personally cannot switch from one thing to another but I certainly can understand how others can if something no longer holds their interest.

As long as you are parting with the Colonial collection I hope it will end up in some place like Colonial Williamsburg where it will be seen by many.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

By Eric P. Newman, President

EPN/atb

Waverly, Virginia
June 8th 1959

Dear Mr. Eric:

Thank you for the return of the two notes which I sent you. I was somewhat under the impression you might have them already, but decided to find out for sure.

You must have a lot more time to devote to numismatics than I have as you seem to be a man of many trades. I wish you a great deal of success in your new project, it should be of a great deal of interest to everyone regardless of their profession. It appears to me that you are actually more interested in research than collecting, and if that be the case, I can't understand why you don't open up your heart and help me out in my search for certain Va. treasury notes.

Regarding my collection of obsolete notes which I stated I was considering very seriously letting a well known museum have. May I make one thing clear. If I hold any part of same it will be my Va. treasury notes, however I wrote you that if you were really interested to the extent of reconsidering an exchange for my two proof colonials for at least one of your notes (\$500) I would hold these two notes out for you, but in the event such a deal could not be arranged then I would probably let the two proofs go along with the rest of my material. No, if I should complete my Va. treasury notes, I would definitely hold fast to them as I've told you several times before. In fact if I did let them go, I would assure you the first opportunity to acquire them. Also if you will let me have your two notes, I will be glad to ship you the entire collection to display anytime you would like to do so. Don't know whether I ever told you are not, but I have other proof Va. treasury notes as well as the \$50. like the two you have. Criswell and Ford are of the opinion that my note is from the same sheet as yours are from a very similar one. The hand writing is definitely the same and as you well know is more consistent than the genuine signatures. It would mean a great deal to me to have the two notes of yours, since I have such a wonderful collection of same, probably the finest in existence.

If you are interested in completing your collection of colonial note I do think the two notes I have would be of a great historical and valuable addition to your present holdings. I was under the impression you were more interested in colonial notes and we could really be of help to each other by making an exchange. If there are any other notes you can think of that you might want, I will be glad to let you have same if I have them or else will try and locate for you. This I would like to know soon as possible before I let the material go.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,


Howard E. Spain

Waverly, Virginia
August 19th 1959

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
Saint Louis 5, Mo.

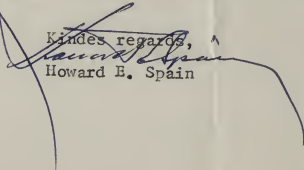
Dear Mr. Eric:

"Do you know anything about a (1 Shilling or Twelve pence)
note dated Oct. 12, 1758 and issued by the Va. colony?

I have before me a Scott paper money catalogue dated 1894
which contains the most complete listing of all colonial
money that I have ever heard of, however it does not list
this note. Thought perhaps you might help me out on this
puzzle. Proof has been established that such a note was
issued, but apparently there are but a few around.

What do you have in surplus material at this time you care
to part with? Maybe we can work out some trade deals on
colonial material.

Kindes regards, ^


Howard E. Spain

Waverly - Va.
Oct. 1 - 1959

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

Would you be interested in purchasing or trading for a set of "Bank of the Commonwealth," Richmond Va - Consisting of the following notes - 1.00 - 1.25 - 1.50 - 1.75 - 2.00 - 2.50 - 3.00 - 4.00 - 5.00 - 10.00 - 20.00 - 50.00 - 100.00 all in fine to abt. uncirculated condition? you may already have them, but I've been offered this set and while I have them myself I thought perhaps you might be interested - Please let me know as soon as you can - we could likely work out some kind of a trade -

My deal on the Va. Colonials firmed out as I wasn't at all pleased with their plans ^(memo) and therefore I still have my entire collections intact. Another word about the possible existence of a 500 Va. note - I now have a copy of (Destink's) 1923 price list, where he listed your note as a similar note @ \$25.00 but no indication of it being proof or regular issue. but it does prove they were known as far back as 1923 at any rate. Are you interested in sheets of obsolete paper money - Have several duplicate sheets of Va. county notes I could trade you.

With kindest regards
Hans H. Spain

Waverly, Virginia
November 16th 1959

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
Saint Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

Sometime ago I wrote you concerning a 12 shilling note dated Oct. 12th 1858 on the Va. Colony, but unfortunately I never had any reply from you about this. I've been told by several collectors of Colonial currency that they never heard of such a note, however there is a photostat copy of one at "Williamsburg". I thought perhaps you might be in a position to shed some light on it, since you do quite a bit of research. Your comments will be greatly appreciated.

"Do you have any of the very early issues of Va. notes as illustrated by Richard Hooper several years ago in the "Numismatist"? He wrote me they were furnished by Mr. Boyd and Harley Freeman. I have a 5 pound of 1760 in extra fine condition, also a 2 pound in fine dated 1762---

So far I've never found anyone that has seen or heard of another proof note like the one I sent you for examination. A number of collectors have seen reprints and the blank type notes issued by N. H. and etc. to be filled in to some person or company such as stock certificates but nothing like my "One shilling 3 pence". Needless to say they all want my note, but I'm afraid they will continue to want as I've about decided to concentrate on Va. myself and as I told you in my last letter, my deal with the Museum fell through because of some details that were not entirely suitable to me.

I shall be glad to hear from you, and if you know the whereabouts of another proof note on either Va. or some other colony, I would appreciate more information on same.

Kindest regards,


Howard E. Spain

November 23, 1959

Mr. Howard E. Spain
Waverly, Virginia

Dear Mr. Spain:

In answer to your inquiry, my guess is that the so-called 12 shilling note of October 12, 1758 of Virginia is probably a 12 crown note and that the word "crown" is either torn away or obliterated and the word "shilling", on another part of the note, is visible, and that the the 12 crown, or 60 shillings, has been misinterpreted as 12 shillings.

I'll give you a tough question which you may be able to answer very easily, namely:

On the Virginia Colonial notes of 1771 is
"W.N.Pr.Tobacco".

What does this stand for?

Is it "wet newly processed tobacco?" Or

"Warehoused newly pressed tobacco?" Or

What is it?

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

Waverly, Va.
March 18th 1960

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

The enclosed note came in with a lot of other currency which I purchased a few days ago. I send it along to you thinking it may be of interest, as it is of no value to me in my collection. According to "Criswell's" listing it is somewhat on the scarce side, but you would know more about that than I since you collect Missouri items.

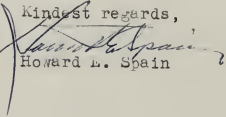
If the note by any chance is of value to you, you may make me some kind of a trade offer for same. I believe you have a list of some of my wants in bank, city and colonial notes. If the note is of no interest, then I would appreciate your returning it at your convenience.

Real nice material is becoming more difficult to find everyday, and the demand far exceeds the supply. I have managed to pick up a few rarities recently, but needless to say they were out of this world in price.

The Smithsonian must be desperate as they have been inquiring around for colonial currency since I understand they have never had but a small representation of same to display.

I shall appreciate your early reply.

Kindest regards,


Howard L. Spain

ENCL:

State Of Missouri note.

1978--very fine.

March 23, 1960

Mr. Howard E. Spain
Waverly, Virginia

Dear Mr. Spain:

Thank you for forwarding the Missouri Militia
Claim Warrant of 1874, which is returned herewith.

It is an interesting item but, of course, is not
money and was never paid. I have them in my
collection already and know a girl with a cigar
box full. Criswell's listing is a little more
commercial than actual.

Thank you for thinking of me with respect to this
item.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

P.S. I can't afford to send it back by Certified
Mail because I paid your certification fee. Ha, Ha!

EPN

Waverly, Va.
May 19th 1960

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Ave.
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Mr. Eric:

I should have answered your letter long before now, but have been on the road quite a bit of my time and therefore just getting around to answering my correspondence.

I am sorry about the certification fee as the enclosed receipt will show that I had already paid it. Anyway I am enclosing the postage herewith that you paid.

I am taking the liberty to send you for examination one of Mr. R. L. Deitricks old paper money catalogs that he published in 1923, listing the \$500 Va. note at \$25.00. I wanted you to see this in order to remove any doubt that might still exist in your mind as to what I had previously written about having seen one of these notes and etc. You will note that he states the note is dated Oct. 15th 1862, which correspond with the date on your note and also on the one that I have. When I contacted young Deitrick I asked him if his collection had a note of this denomination dated 1861. His reply was he did not have a note of that date and he wasn't sure whether his uncle ever had one or not, but according to the records he had available it indicated he could have or knew the whereabouts of such a note. The old man whom I talked with about a year ago told me Deitrick did have such a note as he tried to sell him one.

I still believe I saw one in his collection, but where it is now is anybodys guess. I would still like to acquire yours and feel certain that I could make you a good trade proposition. If such a deal could not be made, I would at least like to see it with your permission.

Do you have a photostat available that you could send me of your \$100? If so, I would like to see it.

Please return the catalog and I will refund the postage to you.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,


Howard E. Spain

May 24, 1960

Mr. Howard E. Spain

Waverly, Virginia

Dear Mr. Spain:

I am returning Deitrick's Catalogue, your certification receipt, and money. You are an amazingly persistent person.

Very truly yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

Waverly, Va.
May 28th 1960

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue,
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

I thank you for the return of "Deitrick" catalog, but regret you didn't keep the money which was rightfully yours. I trust that you found the catalog interesting, and that it at least convinced you that I was right when I wrote you such a note had been catalogued and priced as far back as 1923. I am quite sure that he had one of these notes in his collection and that he showed it to me along with several hundred other items in his enormous collection which I do not believe could be surpassed in quality and I might add quynity. He was a rather queer old duck, very particular and even kept padlocks on his show counters in the store. I understand the Nephew is even worse and won't let anyone get in smelling distance of the collection for fear something might be taken. I've even been told by neighbors of his that even if he had such a note, he wouldn't tell you. I had rather not have any dealings with people inclined to think everyone is a crook but themselves.

As you know beyond a doubt I want one of these notes to round out my collection of Va. treasury notes which I might say not boasting is probably as nice as can be found. I've always been interested in the treasury notes and have tried diligently to find another to buy or trade for, but so far without any luck. I thought perhaps explaining my position and interest, you might reconsider and offer me some kind of a deal. Now you probably have many notes even on Va. that I don't have, but I'm sure I have some that you would like to have yourself and might finish out some particular series which is of more interest to you than the treasury notes. I don't want you to give me the note, I'm perfectly willing to pay a fair market price or trade something that historically may be of far more value money wise than your piece. I have collections started that I know will never be completed, but if I could get your note, I believe, unless something I've never heard of turns up, I will just about have the works which I would be delighted to loan you for exhibit in your museum. Being a native Virginian and this a Va. item you can add the two and understand my desire to own your note. Place the shoe on your foot and you can readily see what I mean. Suppose I had some special note on Mo. which you have tried to get and suddenly found out I had it, you of course would try to buy it thinking something on your state would be of more interest to me, and that nine times out of ten is usually the case. I can understand your interest in paper, but I gave up the idea long ago of trying to form a collection on every state. I know its impossible to do. In cash, what will you take for the note? Or, part trade and cash? Or is it definitely now and forever not for sale. Please advise and that will end it once and for all.

Sincerely yours,

W. E. Spain

*P.S. anything in my collection
is for sale & possible trade
except my treasury notes -*

Waverly - Va.
9/25/60

Dear Mr. Neuman:

Sometime ago you sent me a list of your duplicate notes. I was wondering if you would sell them for cash, or do you prefer trading for something. I have then I recall being interested in are as follows:

- 1 - .50 Shepherdston Va.
- 2 - .50 War Bank - Richmond
- 3 - 300⁰⁰ Va. Colonial note
- 4 - 100⁰⁰ Bank of Richmond

I have some odd denomination Bank notes as Va. I could offer in Trade if you do not already have them, and perhaps a few other notes also.

How is the museum coming along?

Kindest regards

Waverly E. Spaulding

1-8-62

Dear Mr. Eric:

Just a note of inquiring to find out if you still have the 500. Va. note, and if your enthusiasm is as great now as it was two years ago, when I was trying to work out some sort of a deal on it with you.

Since you also have a \$100 note of the same type, I thought perhaps you might consider letting a person have it, who would really appreciate, ^{it} keep it, and cherish it for many years to come. In exchange for the note I naturally would have to give up something which in my opinion is equally important and might more so, and which is very dear to me. If such a deal can be made, I fully believe you would get as much joy out of the exchange as I, and we both could be considered in an exclusive group since to my knowledge now, you and I hold the only specimens of the type in Colonial & Va. T. This would give you first place in Colonials and likewise give me the same in 2000 notes. I would be willing to cooperate with you at anytime in making displays for coin shows & conventions. I think an exchange would be beneficial to both of us, and taking everything into

consideration it should prove
very beneficial to you from a historical
standpoint, more so than to me as
I do very little research in minutiae.
"why not give it, "the idea" careful
consideration and let me hear
from you on it — There may be
other notes I have you might be
interested in if I knew what
they were — Or sure we
can work out something.

Hope you and yours had a nice
Christmas, and the new year will
be full of success & happiness —

With best wishes

Sincerely

Harvard E. Spain

9114 - 19698

January 22, 1962

Mr. Howard E. Spain
Waverly, Virginia

Dear Mr. Spain:

Your motto is "Never Say Die".

Happy New Year.

I have spent the Fall writing a book on
the 1804 Dollar which will be published
this Spring.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

March 7, 1962

Mr. Howard E. Spain
Waverly, Virginia

Dear Mr. Spain:

You should write the book on Virginia paper money or Treasury Notes as I have four books in the making now.

As far as publicizing my note and being proud to own it, this is of absolutely no interest to me.

If you have some new material on Virginia paper money I would be the first one to encourage your writing it up.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

Waverly - Va.

2/18/62

Dear Mr. Newman:

In reply to your recent letter, I would like to thank you for telling me what my motto was - as, I'd often wondered about that.

Since you are so determined to never sell or trade your Va. note to anyone "why don't you write a book on Va. Treasury notes illustrating all types and varieties?" I think it would be real nice if you did so - This way your note would be publicized all over the country and you could really sit back and be proud to be the owner of the only known Va. \$500. note.

I will be glad to cooperate with you in giving information I have and furnishing notes you would probably need. Think it over and let me know how you feel about it. I didn't get to the Atlanta convention, but read what you said about the 1804 Dallas. according to reports you made several people unhappy. I will be glad to hear from you anytime.

Best regards
Harcourt S. Spain

P.S.

By the way I now have a \$10. Va. colonial note which is a partial proof that you mentioned to me in one of your letters.

Waverly, Va.
August 27th 1962

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
Saint Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

It seems old acquaintances will soon be forgotten unless the spirit moves one of us to write again. so, here I go again trying to twist your arm to let go of your two proof Va. notes. It is obvious, that you do not particular care to part with your notes, and perhaps I can understand why, but that does not dismiss the fact that I would still like to have them.

I'm sure beyond a doubt that I must have something that you want in the way of coins or currency, but perhaps you have the same affliction that I have--that is you want the other fellow to let go, and at the same time hold your own. That's a real good deal if you can get it to work. I'll admit hasn't worked for me very often and when it did, I usually gave two for one.

I was hoping since you were primarily interested in research that you would be glad to let a fellow like myself have these two notes for his collection, and definitely a person that would really appreciate them and keep them intact. As I've told you before, my primary interest is in Va. treasury notes and I am willing to make some sacrifices in order to obtain the two notes from you. I have many wildcat notes, and quite a few that you don't have I'm sure, and I don't particular care to let them go, however I would possibly do so should my interest be more dominant in another series.

Harley Freeman told me once that he had a note 3388 that he considered unique on a Northern state, and while he didn't care to part with it, he finally let some lad have it that was collecting in that field or that state and he was really glad to help the boy out as the note was of no particular good to him as he wasn't collecting that state and if it would help some other collector, "why not let him have it?? You can't possibly imagine how much I would appreciate your two notes.

Will be glad to try and work out something with you on them if you will only give me the chance. I never give up hope, because if and when you do, that is the end.

Best wishes and kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Howard E. Spain

Waverly, Va.
October 13th 1962

Mr. Eric P. Newman
3450 Cecil Avenue,
Saint Lois 5, Mo.

Dear Mr. Eric:

Of all the headaches you have I suppose I'm the worse of all, but I hope you will be able to find sufficient time to answer this inquiry. You have expressed a desire several times in the past two or more years to obtain one of the proof Va. colonial notes I have, but it seems we could never get together on a trade involving what I wanted in exchange. Now, I'm going to give you another opportunity to do so, if you have what I want and you are willing to part with them. Clarence Criswell told me quite sometime back that you had a considerable amount of Va. currency of all types. If this be true, perhaps you have the following items:

✓ \$500.00 Bank of the Commonwealth, Richmond
\$500.00 The Monticello, Charlottesville
\$500.00 The Exchange Bank of Norfolk
\$100.00 Bank of the City of Petersburg
\$100.00 Bank of Richmond
\$100.00 Trans-Alleghany Bank

I have a good deal set-up, providing I can locate the above notes for another party, and I have written several other collectors in addition to you, hoping one might come up with the note.

You can advise me regarding the above at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours,

Howard E. Spain

October 19, 1962

Dear Mr. Spaih,

The only note in my collection listed on your October 13, 1962 letter is the \$100 Bank of Richmond.

Sincerely,

From the desk of
ERIC P. NEWMAN

Waverly, Va.

5/13/63

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Lois 5, Mo.

not answered

Dear Mr. Newman:

I assume you don't, but one never knows when a person might change his mind about selling or trading an item, unless he keeps freshly informed. I am referring of course to your two Va. Treasury notes (\$100 & \$500) that I have been wanting for the past five years.

I just recently purchased a good size collection of Va. obsolete currency, and included in the lot was a perfect specimen of the CSA \$1000. note, and there just might be some material in this collection that you could use. As stated before, I'm willing to lean over quite a bit in order to make a deal with you on these two notes. I say the two, because I have the \$50. and your two would give me the set.

I prize my Va. Treasury notes above and beyond any other paper I have, although in reality they are worth considerably less I would say than some of my other series. Rarity is a second consideration with me as I'm only interested in completing the set in order that I may proudly, but humbly display same at coin meetings and conventions.

I don't believe you have ever fully realized just how much your notes would mean to me or my collection--If so, I think it would make a different picture in your mind. I don't expect you to give me the notes (for peanuts) but I am willing to pay a fair price in cash or trade. There are other collectors whom I'm sure would also like to have your notes, and perhaps they have already contacted you about them, but in all seriousness and no fooling around, I want them to keep and not to resell or trade off, this much I can assure you they will stay put if and when I ever obtain them. Furthermore, if you have any doubts as to my sincerity, You as a lawyer can draw up a bill of sale form, stipulating that you get the notes back if I should try to dispose of them and this you can put on record.

I sincerely hope that you will let me have the two notes as I would really be proud to own them. I have tried desperately hard to find another of the type you have, but so far no luck. All those stories I wrote you about several years ago fizzled out, although "Deitrick" did at one time have a \$500 note. It may have been the one you have now.

I'm enclosing a self-addressed stamped envelope for your reply. Hope we can make a trade.

Best wishes and good researching
Sincerely,

Howard E. Spain

June 13, 1963

Mr. Howard E.Spain

Waverly, Virginia

Dear Mr.Spain:

I am quite well but cannot keep up with your perseverance in beating a dead horse.

You have now asked for a \$1250 Virginia Colonial note and since there is no such denomination I hope you are not slipping.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

Waverly, Va.
6/8/63

Dear Mr. Eric:

I was fortunate a few days ago to secure
in a lot of Va. material the following note,
\$100.00 Va. Colonial - about $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ printed - No.
signature a no - it is in beautiful condition
and while I do not have another, I will trade
it to you for your \$100.00 Va. money note
on heavy pinkish cardboard. If you are looking
for such a note, now is a good time to get
it - It may be good way for us to get started
on a trading spree -

"You don't happen to have a duplicate \$1250.00
Va. Colonial note, do you?"

I haven't received any reply to my letter of
a week or so ago to you. Hope you
are not sick -

Very sincerely yours
Nauvoo C. Spain

August 13, 1963

Mr. Howard E. Spain
Waverly, Virginia

Dear Mr. Spain:

I have a duplicate of the \$1200 Virginia note about which you asked me and since this is a denomination which is sought because of its oddity, I will await a suggestion from you as to what you might wish to exchange for it. I assume, of course, that you still want the item.

Please let me hear from you.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

Waverly, Virginia
August 16th 1963

Mr. Eric P. Newman
P. O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Missouri 63178

Dear Mr. Newman:

Thank you very much for your letter of Aug. 13th. Glad to hear from you again.

I'm afraid you are a bit confused about the Va. colonial note. If you will refer to my last letter of inquiry, I asked about a Va. \$1250.00 note, which you replied there was no such denomination and you hoped that I wasn't slipping. Scott Stamp- & Coin Co. listed such a note in their catalog of 1894, and while I had never seen one advertised, I thought perhaps such a note might exist like some other pieces which have popped up in the past few years.

I have a \$1200 Va. note in my collection, but need quite a few other denominations if you have others in duplicate. As usual I need those that are not often available. I guess that is true with most all collectors.

You might list anything in obsolete currency (Va.) you wish to make exchanges on, and if I have anything you need, I will be more than glad to cooperate. You wouldn't have a duplicate 1771 Va. colonial note? I have them from 1759 through the last issue with exception of a few extremely rare dates.

Did you buy Harley Freeman's collection? Incidentally he didn't have any of the proofs like the one I sent you to look over.

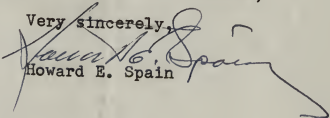
Do you ever come to Va.? If so, why don't you let me know when you are coming and I will be glad to meet you in Richmond or would be happy to have you visit in my home. I believe we could learn to understand each other better if we could get together.

I am sorry I persecuted the dead horse so long, but I was hoping I could revive him to our mutual advantage. If he ever comes to life, will you please let me know-ha,ha, no fools no fun, eh'

Will be glad to hear from you anytime.

With best wishes and kindest regards,

Very sincerely,


Howard E. Spain

Waverly, Va.
Dec. 4th 1963

Mr. Eric P. Newman
P. O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Mo. 63178

Dear Mr. Newman:

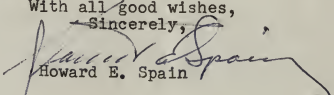
I just acquired a very rare note according to "Criswell's" judgement which I have no need for whatever. It came in a lot that contained Va. items that I purchased a few days ago. It is:

\$5.000.00 Cr. # 12 South Carolina 1872 bond scrip. # 153 and if all the experts know what they are talking about, it is about the 4th specimen known. The note is very fine plus and would make an attractive addition to a specialized collection.

Since you are a specialist in all fields of paper currency, I thought perhaps you might want this note. On the other hand you might just have one of the other three pieces. At any rate, if interested, you can advise and to what extent. I am wide open for a trade offer on something I need, and that applies to the following series. Va. county notes, bank notes, colonial notes, private scrip, treasury notes and city and corporate.

Please advise at-once as others may be desirous of obtaining same if you do not want it.

With all good wishes,
Sincerely,


Howard E. Spain

December 12, 1963

Dear Mr. Spain,

I do not collect bonds.

Thanks, in any event.

Sincerely yours,

From the desk of
ERIC P. NEWMAN

Waverly, Va.
April 5th 1965

Mr. Eric P. Newman
P. O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Mo. 63178

Dear Mr. Newman:

I just recently acquired the following note which I thought might be of interest to you.

\$10.00 Unc. Oct. 7th 1776 Va. Colonial, unsigned, unnumbered and only partly printed. This being such and unusual type note and which could be classed as a proof or, trial piece or something of that nature, I was under the impression it would intrigue you a great deal. Also since you have manifested such enthusiastic interest in the past for such oddities, and since you acquired the outstanding collection of colonials from Mr. Harley Freeman this note would undoubtedly make a very valuable addition to your present collection. The note will have to be seen to really be appreciated as it is rather unique and in an exclusive category.

The note is not for sale, but will be glad to make some kind of exchange with you on Va. Bank note or notes. As you probably have heard by now, I know longer collect colonial notes having disposed of my collection several months ago, hence, I have no interest in this note and offer same to you if at all interested.

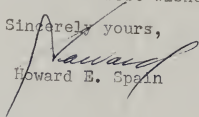
You listed on your sheet of duplicate notes a \$100.00 Bank of Richmond note sometime ago. If you still have the note and it is in nice condition, I will be glad to consider making a trade-- of course it would be subject to both our examinations and approval.

If the note is of no interest, just disregard the letter and I will fully understand. If you are interested, then please advise and I will send the note out for your examination. Unless I hear from you within the next two weeks I will consider the note of no interest to you and will offer to someone else.

You should be highly complimented for your outstanding contributions to numismatics. Your talk in Chicago was most interesting as well as John Ford's and Don Taxay's speeches. More power to you boys and if I can add my two cents worth I'm with you all the way in your thinking.

Kindest regards and best wishes,

Sincerely yours,


Howard E. Spain

HES:CV

April 7, 1965

Mr. Howard E. Spain

Eric P. Newman

Dear Mr. Spain:

The \$10 Virginia piece you mentioned is a reprint made from a broken plate found when Richmond was overrun during the Civil War. Therefore, I am not interested.

I was surprised that you sold your Colonial collection without giving me a chance at it after the interest I showed in some of your pieces. I am even more sorry you sold it at all.

Thank you for the nice remarks you made about our blast off in Chicago. Talking is one thing. Getting action is something else.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

Waverly, Va.
4/10/65

Dear Mr. Newman:

Sorry the \$10. Va. note is of no value, but thanks anyway.

I am sorry if I offended you, but please believe me when I say my collection of colonials were not advertised nor offered for sale to anyone. Actually I was approached with the idea of selling or trading it for other material. After quite a bit of dickering a deal was worked where two different parties wound up with each getting a part. I failed to mention in my letter to you that I did retain several of the more important pieces, including the items you once expressed an interest in. I don't believe there were any other notes in the collection you would have needed. However you are free to contact R. T. Hooper and Paul S. Seitz ## and see if there are any--they are the boys that got the notes.

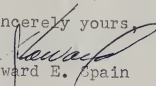
I guess I should have retained the collection, but I realized I would never live long enough to fill all the gaps therein--so figured it would be to my advantage to try and finish out my Va. county, city, bank and Treasury notes which I do have all with a few exceptions. Then to as I have told you several times in the past, my interest in colonials has always been minor.

If you are still interested in the pieces I have, then you are at liberty to make suggestions. These as you know are very special pieces and deserve very special consideration. I don't want to sell, but will entertain desirable offers. Think about it and let me know your ideas.

Thanks again for your help.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,


Howard E. Spain

HES:CV

Waverly, Va.
12/22/65

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

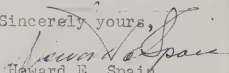
Mr. Picker has just informed me that you are no longer interested in my three Va. colonial proof notes. This doesn't upset me the least as I had no faith from the beginning that you would ever part with your note. I told Mr. Picker this in Richmond, but he insisted that I let him send them along to you with his opinion and he thought a trade could be arranged. I laughed and told him he was only pursuing a dead horse because anyone as dedicated as you were to this particular note would never part with it. I am sorry something couldn't be worked out, but as I explained to Mr. Picker I am interested in the \$500. note not because its a--- proof nor, because I place any fantastic valuation on it, but only because I do not have this denomination in my collection which I pride very highly. I'm sure Mr. Picker is rather out done and flustered since he was so sure he could talk us both into a trade. He has certainly tried hard and was so anxious for you to get these notes from me that I really feel sorry for him. I told him not to blame himself nor me, but you were the one that reneged.

So without any further ado, will you be so kind as to send me the (3) Va. colonial notes at-once by registered or insured mail as I have made other plans for them and the sooner I get them back the quicker I can get this project started. You see there are other colonial note collectors besides you and me and some of them have manifested a great deal of interest in my notes. Dick said you were mailing them back to him, but this won't be necessary as you can ship them direct to me which will be a much quicker route and time saving to us all. Thanks for your time -- your consideration and patience and unless something radical takes place I don't believe you will ever be bothered from this source again about the Va. note which you have such a high regard for.

Will be anxiously awaiting the prompt return of my Va. colonial proof -- notes. One other thing Mr. Eric. I am sorry you always felt I was some kind of a paper eating moth by your consistent refusal to send me your two notes for examination. I can truthfully say you are the only person I've ever had any dealings with that was that particular and afraid-to trust me a member of the ANA # 19698 and also a charter member of the SOPMC # 58. Even Dick who never let me until the Richmond show exercised more faith in me than you have. Anyway I will forgive you for this as all good Christians should at CHRISTMAS time.

Heres wishing you and yours the MOST MERRY CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR EVER.

Sincerely yours,


Howard E. Spain

CC: To Picker

December 27, 1965

Mr. Howard E. Spain

Eric P. Newman

Dear Mr. Spain:

Your opening volley that Mr. Picker informed you that I am not interested in your three Colonial Virginia proof notes must be promptly corrected.

I am quite interested in acquiring one or two of the original group but have never been offered them on any basis except in exchange for the Virginia State notes.

Since you plan to dispose of the proof notes, I would like, very much, for you to offer me one or two of them.

I am sure that Dick Picker was being a Good Samaritan and I certainly appreciate the fact that he thought he was trying to do something to benefit you and to benefit me. I am sure the situation will not cause him any sleeplessness.

By your use of the word "reniged" I am assuming that you meant that I responded in the negative.

I do not recall if I ever sent you a Xerox of the \$500 note, but will be more than glad to do so.

I hesitate to send back your notes during the Holidays, in view of the enormous quantity of mail, and will do so right after the first of the year. By that time I should have heard from you with respect to whether you can offer either or both of the proof notes for a cash price.

Mr. Picker assures me that your collection of Virginia notes is fantastic and from the quantity indicated by him it must be one of the most interesting localized paper money groups ever assembled.

My very best greetings for the Holiday Season.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

CC: Mr. Richard Picker
P.O. Box 123
Albertson, Long Island, New York 11507

Waverly, Virginia
December 30th 1965

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue,
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Re: Va. colonial notes and your
interest therein.

Dear Mr. Newman:

Being a bit hard of hearing and talking by phone, it is entirely possible I may have misunderstood "Dick". Anyway, I'm glad to learn I was wrong and offer my apologies to my friend Mr. Picker.

I'm afraid you got the wrong impression as I have made no plans whatever to part with my proof notes. I merely stated several collectors had manifested a great deal of interest in same, but didn't intend to infer that I was going to dispose of them either by trade or cash. However, I might say that I have been made some very attractive offers both in trade and cash for these immaculate, unfake, unheard, unique notes. I've never -- made a policy of selling anything as rare and unique as these notes from my collection, but have on one or two occasions made exchanges where I felt the trade was more beneficial to me in the field that I was specializing in. That is the primary reason I ever suggested to make the trade with you for your Va. note or notes.

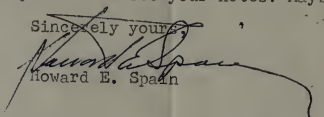
I greatly appreciate your concern for the safety of my notes, and can assure you I would have done the same had the shoe been on my foot.

I also appreciate the flattering compliment Mr. Picker paid me in respect to the size of my Va. note collection. While I do have a considerable number of each series of notes issued in Va. I'm sure my collection is not nearly so comprehensive as yours. Needless to say I have many holes yet to be filled. Your \$500. would fill a rather large one in the Treasury series.

The word "reniged" is a rather commonly used word around these parts and in essence means refused all the offers I made for your Va. note. This I just can't understand, you would like for me to sell you either one or -- both of my notes which are very highly prized by me, yet you do not wish to be equally as nice and let me have your \$500.

Tell you what I will do. To prove to you that my interest in your note is only because its a denomination I do not have--I will even give up my \$50.00 proof and throw that in with the three colonials? That way you will have both the \$100. and the \$50.00. Thats four notes for one. I would like very much to acquire your \$100. Va. State note and your \$100. Bank Of Richmond note, but I don't suppose you care to part with them either. I don't care to part with both of my notes unless its in trade for your \$500. On the two \$100. notes, I would have to see them first and if you have any suggestive offers to make in trade or cash, or, part cash and trade, I will consider same. "Why don't you let me see your notes? Maybe if I see them I will change my mind.

Sincerely yours,


Howard E. Spain

CC: Mr. Picker

January 11, 1966

Mr. Howard E. Spain

Eric P. Newman

Dear Mr. Spain:

Your nice letter of December 30, 1965 is at hand and I certainly realize your devotion to the cause of obtaining the \$500 note. Since it is unique and gives me pleasure in having it, my respect has not changed.

I am, therefore, returning herewith the two proof Virginia Colonial pieces with the text omitted and with the elements reversed.

I am also returning the so-called \$10 proof with the State Seal. This last mentioned item is a reprint made after the Civil War from a broken plate liberated during the Civil War. It therefore is not at all in the same class as the other two bills.

I appreciate the fact that Dick Picker tried to do us both some good and hope that you can understand my point of view.

As I have always told you, you can write me any time you feel like it, and if you ever care to dispose of the two Virginia proofs, I will have an interest.

Cordially yours,

Registered Mail
Return Receipt Requested

P.O.Box 14020
St. Louis, Missouri 63178

EPN/etb

CC: Mr. Richard Picker

Waverly, Virginia
January 15th 1966

703TE42120

Mr. Eric. P. Newman
P. O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Missouri 63178

Dear Mr. Newman:

Thank you very much for your letter of the 11th and the return of my (3) Va. colonial notes.

Your love and respect for the Va. \$500. is quite understandable, and I don't question it at all. While both your note and my colonials may be unique at the present time, you can never tell when others may make their appearance and spoil our show.

I don't believe I have to tell you of my love and respect for the two Va. colonial notes as you already know how much I like them and besides I have told you before that I only made exchanges on items this rare where the exchange might prove more beneficial to me.

I believe I recall Mr. Picker writing something about your willingness to make some kind of trade for one of my notes involving some Va. notes including a \$100. note. What kind of \$100. note? Were you speaking about a \$100. Va. State note on thick paper? I stated in my letter of Dec. 30th that if you had any suggestive trades to make, or any cash offer, you cared to make, to let me know.

Now I just might decide to be a real nice sport and let you have one of my proof notes if, you inturn will be a good sport also. I could possibly be tempted into making an exchange of one of my notes for your \$100.00 Va.-- State note on thick paper, and your \$100.00 Bank of Richmond note. Of course I feel that I deserve the courtesy of seeing your notes on approval since, you have had the opportunity of seeing my notes, some of them twice. This I feel is no more than you or anyone else would want to do yourselves.

Now if you are really and truly sincere and interested in obtaining one of my notes and at the same time want to be nice to me, then send the two notes along for my approval and if they are as nice as I assume they are, I will send you either of the notes you may wish to accept in exchange by return-mail. If you had rather not do this until I say definitely I will trade, then have a photograph made of each and send me to look over. I will advise pronto.

I would greatly appreciate if you will have made at my expense, a life size photograph made in its original color of your \$500. note and send it to me with the bill. We have a fellow in Richmond that does this kind of work and he really makes a marvellous job of it. I'm sure you know photographers in your city that can do the same. This will be a great favor to me and will perhaps serve my cause. I will be glad to hear from you as soon as convenient for you to do so.

Very best wishes

Howard E. Spain

HES:CV

January 21, 1966

Mr. Howard E. Spain
Waverly, Virginia

Eric P. Newman

Dear Mr. Spain:

It was a pleasure talking to you over the telephone.

In accordance with your suggestion, I am enclosing herewith the \$100 Virginia Treasury note, in uncirculated condition, printed on heavy buff proof paper, Plate A, No. 1001, dated October 15, 1864, signed by Bennett and Calvert.

I also enclose the \$100 Bank of Virginia note, No. 85, dated July 9, 1861, signed, and in extremely fine condition.

I also enclose the \$9 Farmers Bank of Virginia note No. 1675, dated June 4, 1855, in very good condition.

These notes, I am sure, will make very pleasant additions to your collection and I am to receive in exchange the one shilling three pence and two shilling six pence Virginia proof notes of 1775/6 without printed text. Please be nice enough to include the pedigree material.

I am certainly glad to make this exchange with a person who is a true collector, who collects for pleasure, education, and cultural contacts.

I wonder if you knew Dr. Wellford, who lived in Richmond, and whose collection ended up at the Virginia Historical Society. I only spent a few hours with him, but enjoyed them immensely.

I will obtain some kind of a picture of the \$500 note, in accordance with your request. I will work it in to my next round of photography which, at the moment, is not scheduled but which can arise at any time.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

REGISTERED MAIL;
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

January 26, 1966

Mr. Howard E. Spain

Eric P. Newman

Dear Mr. Spain:

In accordance with the revised thinking, I am enclosing herewith my check for \$50.00 and a \$6 Farmers Bank of Virginia proof. You will return to me the \$9 Farmers Bank of Virginia note and the two Virginia trial pieces, all of which, no doubt, are on their way.

Sincerely,

P.O.Box 14020
St. Louis, Missouri 63178

EPN/atb

Waverly, Virginia
January 26th 1966

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Box 14020
St. Louis, Mo. 63178

Dear Mr. Eric:

I am glad you called last evening as I enjoyed talking with you and above all I am glad we got the confusion all straightened out about our trade involving the proof colonial notes and your proof notes offered in exchange.

Now, as per our agreement last night, I am sending to you by registered mail the two colonial proof notes, namely, the "One Shilling & 3 Pence note and the "Two Shilling & 6 pence note, for which you are to send me a \$6.00 proof note on the "Farmers Bank Of Va." and your check for \$50.00.

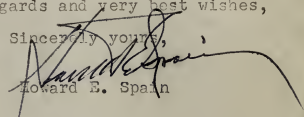
I am also returning herewith your \$9.00 Farmers Bank of Va. note # 1675 in accordance with our agreement.

Again I wish to thank you for your kindness and consideration and I hope that the two Va. proof colonial notes will bring many happy hours of pleasure to you and yours. I can assure you that I will keep the notes obtained from you in a very safe place and will prize them among my best notes. Perhaps someday our paths will cross at which time I am sure we will both have a lot to talk about.

If at anytime I can be of help to you in anyway, please don't hesitate to either call or write me. Please don't forget to have the picture made of the \$500 note for me. If possible I would like to have it in its original size and in its natural color. Of course I realize this is asking an awful lot of you, but I will reimburse you with the cost. Thanks again and will be looking to hear from you soon.

Kindes regards and very best wishes,

Sincerely yours,


Howard E. Spain

HES:CV
Registered Mail
Return Receipt Requested.

P. S. Almost forgot to tell you, the " Two Shilling & 6 Pence note came out of the Dr. Broady collection back in 1929 and he got it from Henry Chapman. Just thought you would like to know.

I don't know where the "One Shilling & 3 Pencenote" originally came from--but I purchased it from a Mr. Stephen K. Nagy of Phila. Pa. about 1950. He was a dealer in obsolete paper at the time.

Waverly, Virginia
July 6th 1966

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Box 14020
St. Louis, Mo. 63178

Dear Mr. Eric:

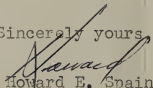
Since it has been approximately (6 months) since we last corresponded, I thought I would drop you a line as a reminder about the picture I requested of your \$500. Va. note. I appreciate the fact that you are a very busy man and I certainly don't want to cause you any inconvenience, but I was thinking perhaps you would be willing to loan me your note long enough that I might have my friend photographer in Richmond to make up a few pictures of your note in the fashion and type that I wish. This fellow performs in a masterly way turning out the best in colors I've seen yet. If you would be kind enough and willing to permit me the use of your note for this purpose, I can assure you it (your note) will be respected and guarded as if it were actually mine and will be returned promptly and properly insured. Of course you no doubt have photographers in St. Louis that can do the same kind of job, but since its rather difficult for me to explain in order that you may understand just what I actually want, and the fact that I would personally like to see your note anyway---makes the loan of your note more appreciative than ever. As you recall, I wanted a picture of your note in its actual -- life size (original note size) made up or printed in as near its present-- color or ink shade as possible, yet clear and distinct. This will cost--- considerably more than a Xerox, but will be much more acceptable inasmuch as it will define its true beauty beyond the average persons comprehension.

I am still living in hopes that you will sometime soon consider letting me have your note which will then complete this set of proofs of which I now have the other two. I have many items in paper that I can offer in exchange although I would hate to see them go for many reasons, however I learned -- years ago that I couldn't have the cake and puddin both so reconcile myself to just the one.

You asked me about Dr. Wellford---yes, I knew the Doctor very well, infact he and I were great friends and needless to say I have missed him very much as he was such a marvelous source of inspiration to me in my collecting. A grand person if I ever knew one. Just prior to his death he and I talked -- about your \$500 note and he wished me the best of luck in obtaining it as he was hoping that someday I would do as he did, turn my collection over to the Va. Historical Society. I didn't actually make any promise, but indicated that I might. He mentioned that you stopped over in Richmond and visited with him for a while which he enjoyed very much. He didn't seem to recall whether you told him about your note, but was under the impression you didn't

I shall be awaiting your reply and whatever you choose to do will be O. K, with me.

Sincerely yours,


Howard E. Spain

August 1, 1966

Mr. Howard E. Spain

Eric P. Newman

Dear Mr. Spain:

I am sending you a Polaroid shot of the \$500 Virginia note. A friend of mine, who is an expert photographer, could certainly take this note in color on 33 mm and your friend could print it from that shot. Would you ask him if this is possible; otherwise tell me exactly what kind of film he wants used and then I can decide whether I ought to try to get you the picture or send you the note for that purpose.

I am sorry I could not answer sooner but I was away on vacation.

My kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

MEMORANDUM

August 1, 1966

TO Mr. Howard E. Spain

FROM

Eric P. Newman

Dear Mr. Spain:

I am sending you a Polaroid shot of the \$500 Virginia note. A friend of mine, who is an expert photographer, could certainly take this note in color on 33 mm and your friend could print it from that shot. Would you ask him if this is possible; otherwise tell me exactly what kind of film he wants used and then I can decide whether I ought to try to get you the picture or send you the note for that purpose.

I am sorry I could not answer sooner but I was away on vacation.

My kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb



WAVE 13/y - Va.
10/27/66

Dear Mr. Eric:

I would really appreciate it, if you could send me a color picture of your note in its actual size, or how as you stated above a 33 mm or larger that in color made of it - of course if you are not it desire to do so, "why not send me the note for a few days and let me have it done here" - I assure you no harm will come to your note and it will be promptly returned. Tried to get you by telephone one day last week, but your secretary said you were in Miami and would not return before Sunday - I shall be very grateful to you for a reply as he written twice prior to this. "Is something wrong?" Thanks -

Kindest regards

Howard E. Spain

P.S. "Would a color negative work?"

November 14, 1966

Mr. Howard E. Spain
Waverly, Virginia 23890

Dear Mr. Spain:

You would never believe the delays that have had to be conquered in order to get you a beautiful color negative of the \$500 Virginia note. The negative is enclosed.

It has been a pleasure to have this prepared for you. It was taken by the Director of Lunar Photography of the United States Air Force, which I hope explains the delay. I trust you are able to use it for your purposes and we are glad to be of service.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

Enc.

Waverly, Virginia
August 9th 1966

Mr. Eric P. Newman
P. O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Mo. 63178

Dear Mr. Eric:

Thanks very much for your letter with enclosure of the polaroid shot of the \$500 Virginia note. I appreciate this favor very much.

I consulted my friend in regard to the possibilities of printing an enlargement of this note in its actual color. He of course thinks it can be done, but would prefer seeing the note in order to be certain of the right ink mixtures needed to blend to the actual color of note.

This is no doubt the proper way to do it if you really want a first class picture, but its gonna cost considerable more and as one can put it, it even might be cheaper to purchase the note in the long run.

Perhaps the most economical way would be as you suggested--Have a 33mm or larger made in color of this note and then have a print made of it to its actual size. If you can have this done for me, it will be most highly appreciated, but I don't want to put you to extra trouble as I can get the enlargement made here if you will have the 33mm or larger made in color. Whatever the cost please let me know so that I can send you check to cover.

After looking the polaroid shot over with a large glass, I can really appreciate the true beauty of this note. I can readily understand your love and devotion to this note. Its remarkable to see just what a grand job "Hoyer & Ludwig" did in engraving and printing these notes under the condition as existed in those days. As you already know, nothing would make me any happier then to get a letter from you saying, "Howard" I've decided to let you have my \$500 note as I believe your love for this note is much greater than mine and perhaps you were right when you said it should be with its two companion notes the \$50 & \$100. One thing I can assure you off, and that is, if such a surprise should ever come about--no one unless it were you would ever get it from me and that would have to be under dire circumstances, or a lack of interest in maintainning the collection which is very unlikely and in event such should ever happen--you would certainly be the first to know of it. Think about it and I'm positive I have many items that would perhaps strike your fancy that I would like to keep, but I'm willing to share a part of what I have to accomplish a life long ambition to build as near complete collection of Virginia Treasury notes as possible.

Will be awaiting your reply and again, whatever you decide will be O. K. with me.

My very best wishes and kindest regards

HES:CV

Sincerely yours
Howard

Waverly, Virginia
September 22nd, 1966

Mr. Eric P. Newman
P. O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Mo. 63176

Dear Mr. Eric:

Did you receive my letter of about a month ago in reply to yours of August 1st.? Since I had heard nothing from you, I was wondering if it ever reached you, or perhaps was lost in transit.

You probably think by now that I have nothing to do other than continuously write you about your Va. note, but I can assure you I have plenty to do, yet I seem to find time enough to keep up with my numismatic interest also.

In the event my letter was misplaced or lost, the contents of same had to do with a "COLOR SHOT OF 33 mm or larger shot of your \$500. Va. note. I believed you said a friend of your being an expert photographer could certainly take this note in color and you thought my friend in turn could print it from that shot.

As I mentioned in my letter, I contacted my man and he was under the impression it could be done, but said if he were going to really make a good job, it would be best for him to see the note in order that he could get the proper inks ~~xxx~~ etc. Of course he also informed me that the cost of such an undertaking would be rather steep and that perhaps it would be cheaper to me in the long run to purchase the note. I told the party that would suit me just fine but I didn't think it could be done just now.

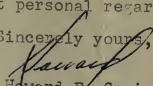
So if it won't be asking of you to much, Will you have your photograprer make a color shot of the note on as large a scale as his camera will -- handle and send it to me to have blown up here--or, if you can have it made their in St. Louis and send me the bill that will be just fine. I was hoping to have this made up prior to our VNA show in Richmond last week in order that I could show it off. By the way will it be alright for me to have a few Xorex pictures made and give them to a few friend collectors of mine? Would like your permission on this before doing so.

How would you like to trade your note for a representative collection of Virginia County notes? As you probably know these notes are very interesting and quite difficult to come by in nice condition. Just an idea to give you something to be thinking about.

Please let me hear from you at your earliest convenience and any help you care to give will be most highly appreciated. Sorry to cause you so much trouble as I know I've been a thorn in your side long enough.

My kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,


Howard E. Spain

HES:CV

Waverly, Virginia
December 5th 1966

Mr. Eric R. Newman
P. O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Mo. 63178

Dear Mr. Eric:

Please pardon the delay in answering your most highly appreciated letter of Nov. 14th with enclosure of the color negative of the \$500 Virginia--note. It is perfectly lovely in every respect and I just can't thank you enough for this favor.

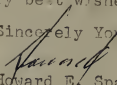
I haven't had time as of this moment to have the negative blown up, but expect to do so very shortly as I plan to be in Richmond within the next day or so and will call on my friend photographer and see just what kind of a job he will make.

While I have it on my mind may I ask you a personal question? A number of my collector friends here in Va. have asked me to send a picture of this note to our VNA publisher in order that he may portray it on the front cover of a future copy of our monthly news magazine, and they would also like for me to do a short story on same. All of these collectors think I have the note and that it belongs to me. I have told them differently, but expressed the hope that sometime in the future I might acquire same. "Now the question", "Will you permit me to send the picture and do a short write-up on same? I like to always get the owners permission in cases of this kind before I get to excited. While I feel like it would be alright with you, I still would feel better about it if you give me the greenlight. Please let me know on this right away. Any information you can give that will help me to write this up will be much appreciated. You may also advise if you wish your name with-held for protective reasons as many people often do, or if you would rather I mention the fact that you are the owner of same. I think you should get the full credit, but will respect your wishes whatever they are.

In closing may I again say, I am deeply grateful to you for your time, expense, trouble and patience for the lovely negative. I will always feel indebted to you for this noble and gracious favor. If at anytime I can be of help to you in anyway, please don't hesitate to call on me.

With very best wishes,

Sincerely Yours,


Howard E. Spain

HES:CV

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

January 30, 1967

Mr. Howard E. Spain
Waverly, Virginia 23890

Dear Howard:

I don't believe I ever answered your nice
letter of December 5, 1966.

You may publish whatever is accurate about
the \$500 Virginia and there is no need whatever
to mention my name.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/etb

April 27, 1967

MEMORANDUM

TO Mr. Howard E. SpainFROM Eric P. Newman

Dear Howard:

Thank you for your most generous remarks concerning EARLY PAPER MONEY OF AMERICA. It is a pleasure to have done work which people, like you, appreciate.

I am satisfied that my \$500 Virginia note is the same one which was advertised many years ago.

Cordially,

EPN/stb

Waverly, Va.
April 24th 1967

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Eric:

I am sending you herewith a copy of our "The Virginia Numismatist" for April 1967. This copy as you will readily see has a photograph on front cover of your \$500 Va. note, and you will also find on page 6 another picture as well as a short writeup on the note as far as my knowledge and ability would let me go. I'm sure after you have read what I had to say you will understand that I am far from being a writer. I certainly hope I made no serious errors in doing this story, but if I did, that is quite understandable as I don't profess to have all the answers nor a book of knowledge about the note. All I tried to do was briefly mention the fact that such a note had been off to the public in past years, but I did ^{not} elaborate, as it could be the same note as far as I know. I could have probably been more technical perhaps and mentioned plate letters and the fact that the \$50 & \$100 maybe came from the same sheet and etc and etc. However I thought this article would start the ball to rolling and I'm sure I will receive a lot of criticism as well as some praise.

I wanted you to have a copy of this, and if there is any further information you know of relative to the note, I would be happy to have your comments and etc.

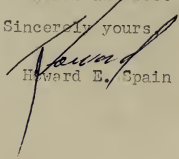
I want to thank you kindly for sending me permission to do the write-up and also for your gracious cooperation in furnishing me with pictures and negatives etc.

Now I want to congratulate you on the outstanding job you made in your recent publication "The Early Paper Money of America". Believe me, when I say you have made one of greatest contributions to the collecting--fraternity that to my knowledge has ever been made. You have brought a world of information to the front that has never before been known and again you are to be congratulated, and you have my deepest appreciation for this truly magnificent piece of work which all collectors of colonial currency will be indebted to you for many years.

Thanks again for your help.

With kindest regards and best wishes,

Sincerely yours,


Howard E. Spain

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

March 20, 1974

Mr. Howard E. Spain
Waverly, Virginia 23890

Dear Howard:

I fully realize your pleasure in your dream coming true concerning the \$500 Virginia Treasury Note. I am glad to learn of this discovery. This type of satisfaction is one of the pleasures of Numismatic work.

For a while you felt that you could understand how I would not sell my wife, but could not understand why I would not sell my note. You also indicated that the signatures on my piece was forged but fortunately they match the signatures on your piece.

However, let's look forward to new and exciting things as there is so many wonderful ways to enjoy Numismatics.

Hoping that our paths cross soon again, and thank you for your thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

Waverly, Va. 23890
March 14th 1974

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue,
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Mr. Eric:

After fifteen or more years of searching, my dream has at last come true. Please accept the enclosed photo-copy of a genuine circulated \$500. Va. treasury note with my compliments. Please note the serial # 3029 which indicates quite a few of these notes were issued if they started with serial # 1----Also note the signatures as well as the date of issue. The auditors account journal for the year 1861 shows that -- something like 3900 of these notes were issued and all but 216 were redeemed prior to the destruction of Richmond.

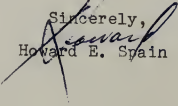
If you recall, my contention has been that several of these notes were still around from information that had been handed to me over the years and while my hopes of ever locating one was very slim, I still had faith enough left to believe one would eventually turn up.

I thought maybe you would appreciate learning about this discovery, and also like to have a picture of same. The Acts of the Va. General Assembly were carefully searched but did not indicate such a note was ever issued, however as mentioned above a later search revealed that a number were issued and redeemed as per the auditors account journal of 1861.

Hope this finds you and yours well and that the year 1974 will be fruitful and promising numismatically.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,


Howard E. Spain

Waverly, Va. 23890
March 25th 1974

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, 5, Mo. 63105

Dear Eric:

Thanks for yours of March 20th relative to the Va. \$500. note that has recently been discovered.

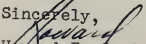
I would normally drop the subject and talk about something perhaps of more interest. However, I think there has been some misunderstanding regarding some remarks that have been made in the past with respect to the \$500 note that you have and I would like to set the record---straight now rather than have you feel that I degraded your note and wrote something untrue about it.

First of all I didn't intend to imply, even if it appeared that way that your note was no good and when I used the word bogus are forged in regard to the signatures--what I really meant was this. The names that appear on your note are the correct names----, but were written by someone else rather than in the personal handwriting of (J. M. Bennett & I. S. Calvert. You can easily detect this by comparing your note with other regular issued notes of the series and you will readily see what I mean. Further more to substantiate my opinion, I have a \$100 & \$50 on the same heavy pinkish paper as your \$500 (Proof card of india type) with the same signatures and same date and the serial number has been circled just like on your note. The two notes I have which are called proofs perhaps came off of the same sheet that your piece came from.

The \$500. note that I have is on regular bank note paper and not on the heavy pinkish paper. It is a regular issued note and circulated at the time. My thinking is that most of these notes were bought up by banks at the time of issue and very few ever reached circulation. Since they were interest bearing notes they were called for redemption and probably destroyed when cancelled.

I trust that this will straighten out the misunderstanding if there was any in regard to your note as you do have a good note and I know a dozen or so Va. collectors that would be delighted to have it including myself (Not being selfish of course).

I hope that I haven't bored you to much and as you said that our paths will cross again soon. Thanks again.

Sincerely,

Howard E. Spain

HES:CV